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HISTORICAL  
ENCYCLOPEDIA  
OF  
ILLINOIS

EDITED BY

NEWTON BATEMAN, LL. D.

PAUL SELBY, A. M.



INCLUDING  
GENEALOGY, FAMILY RECORDS  
AND  
BIOGRAPHY  
OF  
McHENRY COUNTY CITIZENS

EDITED BY

A. L. WING COBURN

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*ILLUSTRATED*

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VOL. II

McHENRY COUNTY CITIZENS

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## PREFACE.

Among the varied motives which operate upon the human mind, few exert a more far-reaching influence than those drawn from history. If the intellectual, social and moral conditions of a nation, rich in historic memories and associations, be compared with that of another chiefly or wholly destitute of these characteristics, the difference will be found as striking as it is comprehensive. The individual characteristics which go to make up the true strength of a great nation like England or the United States, is continuously fed by the memories of Cressy and Agincourt, Bunker Hill and Saratoga, while long centuries of darkness and bondage have enfeebled the Chinese and many other nations.

What is true of nations is also true of individuals and families. There is not an intelligent, public-spirited and trustworthy citizen of whom it can be denied that the motives prompting to a life of virtue and patriotism have not been inspired and strongly reinforced by the consciousness that his ancestors were brave and upright men. We believe with Webster, that "there is a moral and philanthropic respect for our ancestors, which elevates the character and improves the heart." Burke also truly says: "Those only deserve to be remembered by posterity who treasure up the history of their ancestors," while a distinguished American clergyman observes: "There are riches of moral power in such an ancestry as ours."

The history of nations is little else than the collective history of the families composing each separate and individual nation; therefore, it is easy to see that sufficient reasons exist why the history of families should be written. It is connected with the greatest transactions of the past as well as the present, and through it posterity is enabled to discover what its ancestors have had to do in shaping the successive stages of the nation's history.

Reverence for one's ancestors is not only regarded as a natural instinct of the human mind, but a distinctive feature of the most highly cultivated and virtuous character. The labors of the genealogist may be regarded with disdain by those intent mainly on the acquisition of wealth, the gratification of their appetites, or the pursuit of pleasure, but if General Washington, in the midst of his duties as President of the United States in 1792, found time to collect and write out the genealogy of the Washington family; if Benjamin Franklin, while representing the embryo Republic as its agent in England, was prompted to undertake a journey for the express purpose of ascertaining the facts connected with his own lineage; if both the older and the younger Adams thought it worth while to trace out the history of their family, even to the minutest detail, the editor of the McHenry County Genealogical Record may deem himself justified in the task he has undertaken, and which he has reason to hope he has executed with a fair degree of success and to the satisfaction of its patrons and subscribers.

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There could be no more impressive lesson than that drawn from the contrast afforded by the record of a family which has gone on, from generation to generation, descending in the scale of ignorance, criminality and degeneracy, as against that of another which has maintained for centuries the reputation for intelligence, patriotism and high integrity established by its forefathers. It is, after all, to the average citizen that we are to look for those traits which tend to establish society on its most stable foundations. It is the descent from a family of solid worth that is to be coveted, and there can be no more honorable descent than that afforded by McHenry County's pioneers—those men and women of native ability, strong force of character, hardy constitutions and high integrity.

It is from these well-springs of our middle classes that have come the forces which govern and control the destinies of the American people and produce the leaders of thought and of action. From this uncorrupted blood have sprung the greatest American citizens—such as our own Abraham Lincoln, who, in spite of generations of hardship and privation incident to pioneer life and environment, drew from remote New England ancestors that rich inheritance of intellect, of lofty patriotism, sound judgment and incorruptible honesty, which has made him the strongest and most abiding force in American history.

EDITOR.



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## Biography and Genealogy.

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The verdict of mankind has awarded to the Muse of History the highest place among the Classic Nine. The extent of her office, however, appears to be, by many minds, but imperfectly understood. The task of the biographer is comprehensive and exacting. True, history reaches beyond the doings of court or camp, beyond the issues of battles or the effects of treaties, and records the trials and the triumphs, the failures and the successes of the men and women who make history. It is but an imperfect conception of the philosophy of events that fails to accord to protraiture and biography its rightful position as a most important part of historical narrative. Behind and beneath the activities of outward life the motive power lies out of sight, just as the furnace fires that work the piston and keep the ponderous screw revolving are down in the darkness of the hold. So, the impulse power which shapes the course of communities may be found in the molding influences which form its citizens.

It is no mere idle curiosity that prompts men to wish to learn the private as well as the public lives of their fellows. Rather is it true that such desires tend to prove universal brotherhood; and the interest in personality and biography is not confined to mere individuals of any particular caste or avocation.

The list of those to whose lot it falls to play a conspicuous part in the great drama of life is comparatively short; yet communities are made up of individuals, and the aggregate of achievements—no less than the sum total of human happiness—is made up of the deeds of those men and women whose primary aim through life is faithfully to perform the duty that comes nearest to hand. Individual influence upon human affairs will be considered

potent or insignificant according to the standpoint from which it is viewed. To him who, standing upon the seashore, notes the ebb and flow of the tides and listens to the sullen roar of the waves, as they break upon the beach in seething foam, seemingly chafing at their limitation, the ocean appears so vast as to need no tributaries. Yet, without the smallest rill that helps to swell the "Father of Waters," the mighty torrent of the Mississippi would be lessened, and the beneficent influence of the Gulf Stream diminished. Countless streams, currents and counter-currents—sometimes mingling, sometimes counteracting each other—collectively combine to give motion to the accumulated mass of waters. So is it in the ocean of human action, which is formed by the blending and repulsion of currents of thought, of influence and of life yet more numerous and more tortuous than those which form "the fountains of the deep."

In the following pages are traced the lives and careers of citizens of McHenry County, and incidentally, in the experience of its early settlers, the history of its growth and development. The acts and characters of men and women, like the several faces that constitute a composite picture, are wrought together into a compact or heterogeneous whole. History is condensed biography; "biography is history teaching by example."

It is both interesting and instructive to rise above the generalization of history and trace, in the personality and careers of those from whom it sprang, the principles and influences, the impulses and ambitions, the labors, struggles and triumphs that engrossed their lives.

In the pages that follow are gathered up, with as much detail as the limits of the work allow, the personal record of many of the citi-

zens who have made McHenry County what it is. In each record may be traced some feature which influenced, or has been stamped upon, the civic life.

Here are pioneers, who "when the fullness of time had come," came from widely scattered sources, some from beyond the sea, impelled by diverse motives, little conscious of the import of their acts, and but dimly anticipating the harvest which would spring from their sowing. They built their little cabins, toiling for a present subsistence while laying the foundations of private fortunes and future advancement.

Most have passed away, but not before they beheld a development of business and population surpassing the wildest dreams of fancy. A few yet remain, whose years have passed the allotted three score and ten, and who love to recount, among the cherished memories of their lives, their reminiscences of early days in McHenry County.

Among these early, hardy settlers and those who followed them, may be found the names of many who imparted the first impulse to the county's growth and home-likeness; the many who, through their identification with agricultural pursuits, aided in her material progress; of skilled mechanics, who first laid the foundations of beautiful homes, and many productive industries; and of the members of the learned professions—clergymen, physicians, educators, lawyers, heads of families and leaders in social life—whose influence upon the intellectual life and development of a community it is difficult to over-estimate.

Municipal institutions arise, commerce spreads her sails and prepares the way for the magic of science that drives the locomotive engine over iron rails. Trade is organized, stretching its arms across the prairie to gather in and distribute the products of the soil. Church spires rise to express, in architectural form, the faith and aspirations of the people, while schools, public and private, elevate the standards of education and of artistic taste.

Here are many of the men and women through whose labors, faith and thought, these magnificent results have been achieved. To them and to their co-laborers, the McHenry County of today stands an enduring monument, attesting their faith, their energy, their courage and their self-sacrifice.

#### COL. WILLIAM AVERY.

When the integrity of a country is at stake and the life of the nation is threatened, it is scarcely surprising to see its patriotic young men, without families, animated by a spirit of enthusiasm and love of adventure, rushing to its defense and showing their readiness to battle for public good. But when a man, with wife and children about him and enjoying a settled position in life, breaks those ties which bind him to home, family and friends, in order that he may risk his own life for that of the nation, it gives evidence of a lofty and unselfish patriotism, than which nothing can be grander or more inspiring in human affairs.

Such was the patriotism which inspired Lieut. Col. William Avery, of whose service during our Civil War the following sketch can give but a brief outline. Patriot soldier as he was, his life as a husband and father was not less devoted, and his value as a public-spirited citizen is well remembered. Colonel Avery was born at North East, Erie County, Penn., July 10, 1825, the son of Ira and Mary (Belknap) Avery. Both his father's and his mother's family were descended from English-Puritan ancestors. Ira Avery, who was born in Vermont, came from Colonial and Revolutionary ancestry. At an early day he was a Civil Engineer and a contractor on the Erie Canal. He was prominently identified with many public improvements in the State of Pennsylvania, and also wielded a strong political influence. He settled at North East, Penn., where he remained a number of years, but finally moved to Meadville, Penn., for the purpose of securing educational advantages for his children. Later in life he removed to Afton, Wis., where he died, aged about seventy years. His children were: Alvah W., William, Catherine and Eunice. He was a Methodist in religion and widely known and highly esteemed for his integrity of character.

William Avery was educated at Allegheny College, Meadville, Penn., graduating in 1843, Prof. Matthew Simpson, afterwards a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church, being one of his instructors. While still a young man Mr. Avery engaged in the railroad business as a clerk in the office of the Pittsburg & Fort Wayne Railroad at Cleveland, Ohio, and here he was married on Jan. 16, 1856, to Mary (Palmer) Camp. In December, 1857 he



*Wm Avery*





moved to Marengo, McHenry County, where he was station agent until the call of President Lincoln calling for 300,000 volunteers, issued Aug. 5, 1862. Mr. Avery promptly responded to this call, and leaving the service of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, enrolled his name as a member of the Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was made up of enlistments from McHenry and Boone Counties. On the organization of Company A, of this regiment, he was chosen Captain and mustered in at Rockford, September 4th following; on Jan. 24, 1863, was promoted to the rank of Major and after the death of Col. Thomas W. Humphrey, at the battle of Guntown, Miss., on June 10, 1864, was advanced to the position of Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment. Among the more notable engagements in which Colonel Avery participated with his regiment, may be mentioned the battle of Champion Hills, the siege of Vicksburg, the Red River expedition, the campaign against Price in Arkansas and Missouri, the battle of Nashville, and the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, which preceded the fall of Mobile. In the charge on Vicksburg, of May 22, 1863, he was severely wounded, was taken by a hospital boat to Memphis where he remained in hospital for sometime, and visited his home on furlough, but sometime after the surrender of Vicksburg rejoined his regiment at Natchez. After this he remained with his regiment until the close of the war. On the consolidation of his regiment with the Forty-seventh Illinois in August, 1865, he was mustered out and, returning to his home at Marengo, resumed the position which he had left as Station Agent three years before.

In 1882 Colonel Avery was elected County Clerk of McHenry County and removed to Woodstock, and, by successive re-elections, served three terms—a total of twelve years. Fraternally he was in early life an Odd Fellow and later a Mason, being a member of the Woodstock Commandery Knights Templar. He was also identified with several patriotic organizations, including the Grand Army of the Republic, in which he served as Junior Post Commander for the Department of Illinois, the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, the Union Veteran League and the Loyal Legion—the latter composed exclusively of officers of the Civil War.

Colonel Avery was eminently social, genial and generous. Always popular in the army, he was at the same time dignified, soldierly, courageous and chivalrous towards all with whom he came in contact either in official or personal relations, commanding the confidence and respect alike of his superior officers and of the rank and file. He was a father to the "boys," always looking after their comfort and welfare—always their friend. His kindness of heart, often leading him to overlook minor irregularities in the camp or on the march, when they did not interfere with proper military discipline, won from his subordinates the appellation of "Pap Avery," and the boys were ever ready to do cheerfully for him what they would have been reluctant to do for others. Brave, true-hearted, large-brained, soldierly, he was a comrade in arms, like Chevalier Bayard—"A knight without fear and without reproach". After his death his comrades mourned him as a leader gone, a wise counsellor whose hand-clasp as a friend they would miss through all the future.

Colonel and Mrs. Avery were the parents of two daughters, Ella and Kate, the latter of whom died at the age of nine years. He and his family were members of the Presbyterian church. His death occurred at Woodstock, Nov. 16, 1896, at the age of over seventy-one years.

Mrs. Avery was born May 4, 1826, in Wayne, Ashtabula County, Ohio, the daughter of Cyrus Tallmage and Amauret (Cook) Camp. Amauret Cook, was a native of Williamsfield, Ashtabula County, born Dec. 16, 1808, the daughter of John L. and Eunice (Morgan) Cook. Cyrus T. Camp was born at Norwalk, Conn., May 16, 1795, the son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Nash) Camp. Isaac Camp was the son of Isaac (1) and of Rhoda (Keeler) Camp, and the grandson of Jonathan and Ann Camp. Isaac Camp (2), the grandfather of Mrs. Avery, was born in 1770, and belonged to a family of farmers at Norwalk, Conn., who, in later life, moved to New York State and settled near Poughkeepsie. The children of Isaac Camp (2) and wife were: David, born in 1789; Susannah, born in 1791; Jacob, born in 1793; Cyrus T., born in 1795; Elizabeth, born in 1789; Mary Ann, born in 1800; William E., born in 1802; Charles and Rachael (twins), born in 1805; Seth Keeler, born in 1809—all of

whom lived to years of maturity. Cyrus T. Camp was a farmer and, when a young man, went to Williamsfield, Ashtabula County, Ohio, where, two years later, on March 8, 1825, he married Amauret Cook. They settled on a farm in Wayne, Ashtabula County, which Mr. Camp bought from Ephraim T. Woodruff, a Presbyterian minister who was the original settler. Mr. and Mrs. Camp were members of the Presbyterian church, and he served as a soldier in the War of 1812, enlisting when about eighteen years of age. One of his sons was an Assistant Surgeon in the United States army during the Spanish-American War, serving at Camp Wycoff, or Red Hook Landing, on the eastern end of Long Island, where his father had seen service during the war of 1812. Mrs. Amauret (Cook) Camp having died Feb. 25, 1837, on April 21, 1839, he married Delilah Forbes, who was born July 9, 1809. The children by the first marriage were: Mary Palmer, born May 4, 1826; Cyrus Talmage, born Sept. 16, 1828; Elizabeth Nash, born June 2, 1832; Isaac Watts, born Sept. 5, 1835, and those by the second marriage: Amauret F., born March 1, 1840; William E., born Aug. 24, 1843; Charles David, born Nov. 25, 1844; Rachel L., born Dec. 5, 1846; George R., born April 7, 1848; Sarah A., born, 1850; Laura A., born, 1852. Mr. Camp was a man of unsullied character and reared an excellent family.

Resuming the personal sketch of Mrs. Avery, it should be noted that when her husband entered the army for the defense of the Union, he left behind him his faithful wife and two small children. Like other wives, she watched with bated breath the daily reports of the dead and wounded sent from the field of carnage, fearing that every succeeding list might contain the name of the one with whom her own life was so intimately associated. Such women deserve the gratitude of the American people, for the courage and self-sacrifice with which they passed through this terrible ordeal. Colonel Avery had entered the army with her full consent, as she had patriotically declared, if she were a man, she would do the same. So when he was brought home wounded from the field of Vicksburg, with true courage and devotion, she nursed him back to health and fitness for the return to duty. Thus it was that she, and thousands of other American women

like her, gave evidence of the same self-denial and patriotic devotion to public duty, which inspired the soldier as he risked his life for Liberty and Union on the field of battle.

#### DR. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

Dr. John Quincy Adams, Dental Surgeon, veteran of the Civil War and Postmaster, Marenco, Ill., is the oldest dentist, in point of practice, in McHenry County. The Doctor springs from Puritan New England ancestry, being descended from the Adams family of Massachusetts, so famous in Colonial and Revolutionary history, of which Samuel and John Adams were members. The founder of the family in America was Henry Adams, who came from England to Massachusetts Bay Colony about 1635. Daniel Adams, the great-grandfather of Dr. John Quincy Adams, was a farmer, and his son Timothy, who was born at Barre, Mass., Nov. 7, 1771, was a singing master in early life and also followed the occupation of his father as a farmer. In 1793 he married Deidamia Hemmenway, who was born at Barre, Mass., and belonged to an old New England family of that name. He lived at Dublin, N. H., for a time, later resided at Barre, Mass., but finally moved to Athol, Mass., where he bought a farm and spent the remainder of his days, dying there Oct. 6, 1815, at the age of forty-four years. His wife died at Albany, N. Y., Nov. 7, 1849. The children of Timothy and Deidamia Adams, with dates of birth were: Dexter, Jan. 5, 1794; Martin, Oct. 9, 1795; Roland, July 12, 1797; Millie, July 2, 1799; Achsah, April 30, 1801; Melvin, Jan. 1, 1804; Polly, Oct. 19, 1805; Gilman, July 10, 1807; Gustin, Jan. 15, 1810; Sylvia, Feb. 10, 1812—all born in Barre, Mass., except Melvin, who was born in Dublin, N. H.

Melvin Adams, the son of Timothy Adams, and father of the subject of this sketch, born as stated above, near Dublin, N. H., received a common-school education and, at North Orange, Mass., married Mary Marble, who was born at that place June 8, 1805, the daughter of Abijah and Submit (Taylor) Marble. Her father, Abijah Marble, was of old New England stock, the son of Silas and Catherine (Newton) Marble, both of whom were natives of Marlboro, Mass., the former being the son of Jonathan and Rebecca Marble. Jonathan Marble was





*Chebrih Adams*







*Mary Adams*





one of the first settlers at Orange, Mass., in 1736, and for three generations, the old homestead remained in the hands of the family. He also built a mill at Petersham on the Swift River. Two of his sons were Silas and Robert, and the former spent his life on the ancestral homestead. The farm was a large one and, in common with most New England farmers, the family were in comfortable circumstances. Abijah Marble was born on the old farm, where he spent all his days. His wife, Submit Taylor, was the daughter of Mary (Goddard) Taylor. Her father was a Revolutionary soldier, as attested by the following official record from the office of the Secretary of State for the State of Massachusetts:

"COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,"  
"Office of the Secretary."

"REVOLUTIONARY WAR SERVICE: Rufus Taylor appears in a list of men mustered in Worcester County to serve in Capt. Blanchard's Company, Col. Wesson's Regiment, by a return made by Thomas Newhall, Mustermaster. Term of enlistment three years, mustered June 13, 1777.—Vol. 53, p. 195 C.)

"Rufus Taylor appears with rank of private in Continental Army Pay Accounts of Capt. Blanchard's Company, Col. Wesson's Regiment, for service from May 14, 1777, to May 1, 1778. Residence Athol: reported: furlough to May 1, 1778, and did not return on account of sickness.—(Vol. 9, Part II., p. 81.)

"Rufus Taylor appears in a Return of Men enlisted into Continental Army from Capt. John Oliver's Company, dated February 17, 1780. Residence Athol: Term of enlistment ending January 10, 1785, joined Capt. Blanchard's Company, Col. Wesson's Regiment. (Vol. 41, p. 221.)"

The above record is certified to by the Secretary of the State of Massachusetts, as follows:

"Boston, October 1, 1897.

"I certify the foregoing to be true abstracts from the Record Index to the Revolutionary War Archives, deposited in this office.

"Witness the seal of the Commonwealth.

"WM. M. OLIN,  
"Secretary."

Dr. Adams visited the old Taylor homestead at Athol, Mass., in 1900, and saw the old apple trees set out by Rufus Taylor, some of them being about forty feet in height. The old Wallingford farm adjoining the Taylor homestead, where Abijah Marble was born, is now a pasture and has not been cultivated since a very early period. Tradition says that, at the time of an Indian attack at this place, a man named

Ezekiel Wallingford, was killed by the Indians while hoeing corn in the field, and that, although the land has never been cultivated since, the marks of the cornhills still stand as perfect as they did when that early Yankee farmer was shot down 150 years ago.

Melvin Adams moved from his home in Athol, Mass., in 1856, to Jackson, Mich., where he became a foreman of the shoe department of the Michigan State Prison at that place, but two years later came to Greenwood, McHenry County, where he arrived April 10, 1858, and there engaged in business as an insurance agent. The children of Melvin Adams and wife were: Mary, born July 14, 1826; Sylvia Levice, born Feb. 3, 1828, died Sept. 15, 1844; Melvin Alonzo, born Dec. 30, 1829; Lucy Melissa, born March 15, 1832; Melvina Deidamia, born March 19, 1834; Rosette Alzina, born March 18, 1836; John Quincy, born June 17, 1839, died July 23, 1841; John Quincy (2), born Feb. 4, 1842; Gustin Edgar, born May 11, 1844; Sylvia Levice, born Jan. 9, 1847; Martin Jerome, born Oct. 9, 1848—all born at Orange, Mass., except Rosette A., who was born in Royalston, Mass. Mr. Adams was a Republican in politics and, for a time, served as Justice of the Peace. He died in Greenwood, July 15, 1858, and his wife, Mary (Marble) Adams, Jan. 23, 1874.

Dr. John Quincy Adams, born at Orange, Mass., Feb. 4, 1842, attended the common school in his native town and at Athol, Mass., where his parents resided. He was sixteen years of age when his parents removed to Greenwood, McHenry County, where he attended the district school, his first teacher being the Rev. William Nickel. He was also a pupil for a time of Charles Herrington—as a rule, working upon the farm in the summer and attending school in the winter. On Aug. 9, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served the full term of three years, being finally discharged at Springfield, Ill., Aug. 17, 1865. Among the battles in which he took part in 1863, were those of Raymond and Champion Hills, Miss. During the siege of Vicksburg, on May 19, 1863, he was selected as a sharpshooter and was shot through the left foot, which resulted in his being detained in hospital for the next three months—first in the general hospital at Vicksburg, then at Webster

General Hospital, Memphis, when, receiving a home furlough, he spent some time in hospital at Chicago. On Dec. 6, 1863, he rejoined his regiment and later took part in the Red River expedition, the Guntown (Miss.) affair, the battle of Nashville and the siege and capture of Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely and the city of Mobile—events which marked the close of the war. He received a silver medal for gallantry during the memorable assault upon the rebel works at Vicksburg on May 19, 1863, when he received his wound already referred to. He was never a prisoner during his term of service.

After his return from the war Dr. Adams began the study of dentistry (1866) at Richmond, Ill., in the office of Dr. C. N. Kendall, afterwards of Woodstock. In the fall of 1868 he established a dental office at Marengo, where he has conducted a successful business, and has acquired a reputation as one of the ablest practitioners in the branch of dental surgery in McHenry County. During the years 1874 and '75 he attended the Philadelphia Dental College, Penn., in the latter year receiving his diploma as Dental Surgeon.

Dr. Adams was married, May 2, 1867, in Greenwood, Ill., to Olive Permillia Watson, who was born in Greenwood, Oct. 3, 1847, the daughter of James and Louisa (Button) Watson. (See sketches elsewhere in this volume of Watson and Button families.)

Dr. and Mrs. Adams have had the following named children:

Olive Lione, born at Richmond, Ill., July 26, 1868; married Sept. 27, 1893, Charles Bigelow Whittemore, who is an attorney-at-law in Marengo.

Ada Elizabeth, born in Marengo, Ill., April 9, 1870; married June 14, 1893, Walter D. Joslyn, at present cashier of the N. P. Express Company, Chicago. They have two children—Walter Roland and Raymond Oliver.

Nellie Winifred, born in Marengo, Aug. 25, 1873; died Aug. 27, 1877.

Mary Louisa, born in Marengo, Feb. 2, 1876; married Aug. 8, 1897, Frederick Clement Lagen, who is an employee of the N. P. Express Company, Chicago, and they have two children—George Frederick and Olive Mildred.

Luella Gertrude, born in Marengo, July 6, 1878; died Jan. 4, 1879.

Mildred, born in Marengo, Jan. 4, 1881, is a

teacher in the public school at Park Ridge, Cook County, and makes her home with her parents.

John Melvin, born in Marengo, Oct. 23, 1885, is at present a pupil in the Marengo High School.

Mrs. Adams is a member of the Presbyterian church. Fraternally Dr. Adams is a member of the American Order of United Workmen and one of the founders of the Harley Wayne Post, G. A. R., at Marengo. In politics he is a staunch Republican and is the present Postmaster of Marengo, having held the office under various appointments for more than thirteen years—first under President Arthur, later under President Harrison, and for his third term under Presidents McKinley and Roosevelt. Dr. Adams' official record has been a notable one, furnishing evidence of the high estimation in which he is held in the community as a business man and popular leader.

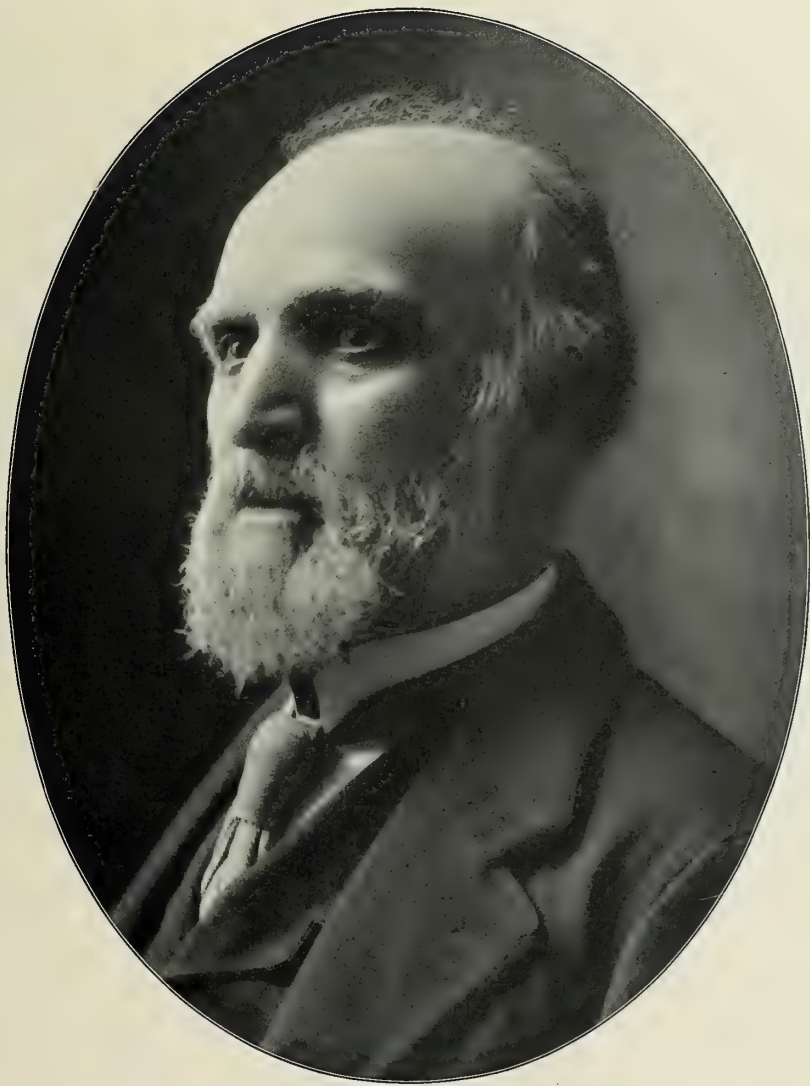
#### GILBERT L. AVERY.

Gilbert LaFayette Avery, a resident of Marengo Township, McHenry County, is a pioneer settler of Marengo Township and a man well known to the people of his community for honesty, reliability and straightforward character. Born at Auburn, Susquehanna County, Penn., Feb. 11, 1827, he is a son of David and Diantha (Meacham) Avery.

David Avery, the father of Gilbert L., is of Puritan English stock and descends from an old colonial family of Groton, Conn., who came from England as early as 1630. He was born near Norwich, Conn., in 1790, the son of Ezekiel and a grandson of Robert Avery.

Ezekiel Avery was a patriot soldier in the Revolutionary War, enlisting in Washington's army when but sixteen years of age, serving one year and afterwards being drafted for one year longer. He married Miss Lucinda Rogers, and their children were named David, George, Lydia and Lucinda. He settled near Norwich, Conn., but in 1800, moved to Pennsylvania and cleared up a farm from the woodlands of Susquehanna County, where he lived to the venerable age of eighty-five years.

When ten years of age David Avery came with his father to Susquehanna County, Penn., where he grew to manhood. He married in Bridgewater, Susquehanna County, Penn.,



G. L. Avery.







*Mrs. G. L. Avery.*





Diantha Meacham, born in Litchfield County, Conn., 1792, daughter of Jeremiah and Mollie (Bartholomew) Meacham. Jeremiah moved to Susquehanna County, Penn., in 1800, when that country was a veritable wilderness, and there became a well-to-do farmer, and, for that time, was considered wealthy. He was for many years a deacon in the Baptist church and an earnest abolitionist. Mr. and Mrs. Meacham were the parents of the following children: Jeremiah, Sheldon, Diantha, Marilla and Rhoda (Mrs. Frink).

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. David Avery settled on unimproved land adjoining that owned by his father in Susquehanna County, Penn. He made substantial improvements upon his farm and became a well-to-do citizen, owning about 400 acres of land improved with good buildings and was credited as being the highest tax payer in his township. Mr. Avery was a deacon in the Baptist church at Auburn for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Avery were the parents of Jeremiah, Polly, George, Gilbert L., Ezekiel, Orrin and Marilla. Of their children, Orrin was a graduate of Yale College, and settled at Waverly, Iowa, where he served as County Judge for several years. He was captain of a company of infantry in the Civil War, taking part in the siege of Vicksburg and many other engagements; he was also Judge Advocate and presided at court martials in the State of Missouri. After the close of the war he returned to Waverly, Iowa, where he was elected County Judge, but later died at Colorado Springs, Colo., and his remains were brought to Waverly for burial.

Gilbert L. Avery, the immediate subject of this sketch, was reared on the farm and received the usual common-school education. He came to Marengo, Ill., in 1844, being then seventeen years old, and on May 17, 1850, was married in Belvidere, Ill., to Sally A. Sponable, who was born in Ohio in 1834, a daughter of John and Susan (Holmes) Sponable, natives of Ohio and Vermont, respectively. Mr. Sponable came to Marengo Township about 1836 and became a well-to-do citizen. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Sponable were: William, who died in the Mexican War; Alva, a soldier of the Mexican War, and now a resident of Marysville, Cal.; Adelia, who married John Woodruff and is living in Southern California; Caroline (Mrs. Jacob Hiner), and Sally Ann.

Several other of their children died in childhood. Mr. Sponable lived to be forty-five years of age, and died at his homestead about one mile west of Marengo.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Avery settled on a farm in Garden Prairie, where they lived for about six years and then moved to Marengo Township and purchased 100 acres of their present farm, which was then but partly improved. By hard work, good management and economical methods, Mr. Avery made subsequent additions to his farm until he now owns 460 acres of excellent land in McHenry County, besides considerable valuable property in Omaha, Neb. In politics he is one of the original Republicans, casting his vote for John C. Fremont, Abraham Lincoln and every Republican candidate for the Presidency since the organization of the party. He has never been an office seeker, his time being too fully occupied with his farming interests. Mr. and Mrs. Avery are the parents of the following children: Marilla, who married Vernon D. Glass of Spokane, Wash.; Sadie E., married William C. Miller, of Marengo Township and they have one child, Floyd; Mary E., married Joseph Frank Carpenter, a stockholder in a large wholesale paper house of Omaha, Neb., and they have children named Gilbert C., Harry, Marion and Eleanor; Charles E., married Carrie Poyer, resides at Shell Rock, Iowa, and their children are Guy, George, Marion, Dee, Clark, Earnie, Earl and Glen; George married Louie Prey, and they have a daughter Hazel.

Mr. Gilbert L. Avery is a member of the Baptist church in which he has held the office of deacon. A man of good moral character and temperate habits, he has never been addicted to the use of tobacco or intoxicating liquors, and at the advanced age of seventy-five years, enjoys perfect physical health and retains to a remarkable degree the rugged constitution of his earlier manhood.

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#### ISAIAH A. AUSTIN.

Isaiah A. Austin, who was one of the prominent pioneer citizens and a skilled veterinarian, of McHenry County, was born in Otsego County, N. Y., May 5, 1828, son of Pasco and Polly (Collins) Austin. In early life he was left an orphan and, when still a boy, came with

his mother, his brother John and other members of the family to Waukegan, Ill. Young Austin was brought up among the pioneers, and spent his youth with his brothers, Rufus and John, after they had settled on Highland Prairie, and came with them to Woodstock about 1848-49. Shortly afterwards he crossed the plains, with Alvin Judd's party, to California, where he engaged in gold mining and various other occupations, finally settling in Portland, Oregon, where he engaged in the livery business. In 1856 he married Sarah Burke, and their children were William H., Emorette, James A. and Edward L. Mrs. Austin died in Portland, Oregon, in 1865. Mr. Austin then returned to Woodstock where, in company with Eben E. Sherwood, he engaged in the live-stock and mercantile business, afterwards engaging in the livery business, at which he continued until his death. Feb. 9, 1866, he married Mary E. Judd, who was born near Woodstock, Feb. 10, 1840, daughter of Alvin and Eliza (White) Judd.

Alvin Judd was born in Chester, Mass., March 29, 1799, son of Salathiel and Irene (Day) Judd. His father, Salathiel Judd, was a farmer and a native of England. His children were Harvey, Salathiel, Alfred, Alvin, Quartus, James, Theodosia, Elizabeth, Lucy and Irene. He died in North Chester, Mass. Alvin Judd received a common-school education and married Eliza White, born at South Hadley Falls, Mass., Oct. 10, 1801, daughter of Noadiah and Sarah White. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Judd settled at South Hadley Falls, and later at Hartford, Conn. In 1835 they removed to Massillon, Ohio, in 1836, to Blacknut Grove, Ill., and in 1837, to McHenry County, Ill., settling two and one-half miles northwest of Woodstock, where Mr. Judd purchased and entered land of the United States Government. Mr. Judd was one of the early postmasters of McHenry County, and kept the office at his house. He moved to Woodstock in 1842, and, where John J. Murphy's business block now stands, he built the first frame house in the village. Mr. Judd owned part of the land comprised within the present limits of the village of Woodstock, and assisted in platting the town, which he did according to the plat of South Hadley Falls, Mass. He was one of the organizers of the town and named it

"Centerville," which was afterwards changed by Joel H. Johnson, Esq., to "Woodstock." Mr. Judd used his fine dwelling house in Woodstock as a place of entertainment for travelers, but afterwards kept the first hotel in the village, which was built by a Mr. Hutchings. Mr. Judd, with a party from Woodstock, consisting of Isaiah Austin, Luke Belcher, Lew Kelly, William Stowell, Bradford Burbank and Dr. King, went to California in the spring of 1849. Thirteen months later, Mr. Judd returned to Woodstock, and for several years operated a stage line from Woodstock to Elgin, Geneva Lake and Union, later engaging in the mercantile business. Politically he was a Democrat, and as a representative of his party served as Justice of the Peace, and after Woodstock was incorporated, was one of the Board of Aldermen. His children were Royal O., Everett, Adelaide, Helen, two who died in infancy, Alvin, Dwight, Harriet, Whitney, Lucy and Mary. Mr. Judd lived to the age of eighty-two years and died Oct. 4, 1881. His wife died June 20, 1883.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Isaiah Austin resided in Woodstock. Their children were Alvin J., Jesse M., Estelle C., Aubert V., Emery B., Gertrude (who died an infant), Edythe M. and Ethel F. (twins).

In political opinions Mr. Austin believed in the principles advocated by the Democratic party. He was always a very active man, upright and prosperous in business. His livery business, the leading one in Woodstock, is now conducted by his son, Alvin J. Austin.

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#### PASCO AUSTIN.

Prominent among the early settlers of McHenry County is the name of Pasco Austin, a member of a pioneer French family that lived in the State of New York.

Pasco Austin, Sr., father of the subject of this sketch, was probably born in the State of New York, where he resided and owned a farm in Broome County and followed the occupation of a farmer. He married Polly Collins, a native of New York State, but of Irish parentage, and their children were John, Rufus, Priscilla, Samantha, Jerome L., Pasco, Isaiah, Sarah A., Polly and Elisha. There is a tradition in the Austin family that three brothers



came from France in colonial times, and that the grandfather of Pasco Austin, Jr., and probably two of his brothers, served in the Revolutionary army. Pasco Austin, Sr., was killed by accident about 1832.

Pasco Austin, Jr., subject of this article, was born in Otsego County, N. Y., Oct. 27, 1826. When six years old his father died and he lived nine years with Nahum Smith, a farmer, where he immediately began to work on the farm, and thus his advantages for obtaining an education were limited. In 1840 he came with his mother and her family to Chicago, arriving there at ten o'clock in the morning on the tenth day of May. Their point of destination had been Kenosha, but a severe storm had driven them by this point, and therefore they landed in Chicago. After landing in Chicago, his brother, John Austin, bought two cows and a yoke of oxen. He and Pasco undertook to drive the cattle across the Chicago River at a point where the Lake Street bridge now stands, and after experiencing considerable trouble in getting them started, Pasco Austin caught hold of the tail of one of the oxen and, by a free use of the lash, immediately forced him into the deep water. Mr. Austin could not swim and the only means he had to save himself from drowning was to hold firmly to the tail of the ox, which he did and generously applied the whip, until the ox landed safely in port on the opposite bank with Pasco clinging to his tail. He and his brother, J. L., drove the cattle to the Wisconsin State line, a distance of forty miles, and in crossing the Des Plaines River had a similar experience. They made the journey in about one day and arrived in Kenosha County, Wis., near where their brother Rufus had settled, and entered land. The family lived here about one year when the mother died. She was about forty-one years of age, and the mother of fourteen children, four of whom died when young. Pasco Austin lived one year with a farmer by the name of Samuel Ransom, and then made his home with a hotel keeper by the name of Payne. In the spring of 1843 he came to Hebron, McHenry County, Ill., where his brother John had settled, and here worked on a farm for six months, but afterwards bought four yoke of oxen and then engaged in breaking prairie land, a business he followed four years,

and then began buying stock, continuing along this line for ten years. He married in Woodstock, Oct. 7, 1848, Harriet Judd, daughter of Alvin Judd.

Mr. Judd, one of the earliest settlers in Woodstock, was from New England, and in the fall of 1843, hauled the first sawed pine boards and shingles that were brought to Woodstock. Pasco Austin accompanied him and drove a team (two yoke of oxen). Mr. Judd and his brother, James, George Dean and Bradford Burbank owned the land that now includes the present site of Woodstock, and this lumber Mr. Judd used in building a hotel, which was the first frame residence built in that city. Alvin Judd, James Judd and George Dean platted the city of Woodstock. In 1850 Alvin Judd went to California, returned in 1852 and lived to be about seventy-eight years of age. His children were Alvin, Dwight, Whitney, Mary, Lucy, Oscar, Harriet and Everett.

Before his marriage (about 1845) Mr. Austin had worked in a hotel for a Mr. Martin Thrall, proprietor of the "American," which was the first hotel conducted in Woodstock and is now a part of the American House. It formerly occupied the space where John C. Murphy's block is now located. Mr. Austin worked in Woodstock six months, then attended school in Hartland Township one winter and engaged in breaking prairie land the summer following. In 1847 he worked in a hotel kept by George Griffin. The hotel stood on the site of the present McHenry County Court House, and Alvin Judd became proprietor previous to his trip to California, when Mrs. Judd assumed the management during his absence. Mr. Austin was married in this hotel, and afterwards lived with the Judd family for two years, conducting a livery stable, which was operated in connection with a stage line from Woodstock to Marengo, Elgin, Barrington and Beloit, the line being owned by Alvin Judd. Mr. Austin continued in the livery business for about five years and then engaged in buying and selling cattle and horses, at which he continued for ten years, afterwards purchasing 170 acres of land in Hartland Township, and later, 180 acres four miles northwest of Woodstock. He invested in property in Irving Park, Ill., more than thirty years ago, and also owns valuable property in Woodstock.



His children by his first marriage were: Cere-thia and Adelbert L. Mrs. Austin died April 7, 1893, aged about fifty-six years. Mr. Austin was married a second time in Joliet, Ill., Sept. 11, 1894, to Emily Wilson, a widow, nee Rich, born at Malone, N. Y., Dec. 11, 1862, daughter of Sherman and Clarissa (Mitchell) Rich.

Sherman Rich was a farmer, born at East Fairfield, Vt., son of Samuel and Lydia (Mitchell) Rich, of English ancestry. He moved to Ohio when about twenty-one years old, married in Kingsville, Ashtabula County, and settled on a farm which his father had given him. A few years later he moved to Moline, N. Y., lived there one year and then moved to Vermont, settling at Colchester, where he lived until his death, which occurred when he was about fifty-two years of age. His wife died at the age of thirty-five years. Mr. Rich was twice married, the second time to a widow, Josephine Groves, nee Dixon. The children by his first wife were, Bradley B. (deceased), Lydia J., and Thomas H. (deceased). There was but one child, a daughter, by his second wife, Almina A. Mr. Rich was a member of the Methodist church and his second wife was a Baptist.

After Mr. Austin retired from farming he kept a livery stable in Chicago (1871-73), but since that time has made his home in Woodstock, where he has recently built an attractive residence in a modern style of architecture. Mr. and Mrs. Austin have one child, Pasco Rich Austin. They are both members of the Presbyterian church, and in politics Mr. Austin was originally an old line Whig, but afterwards became a Republican. He has served on the Board of Supervisors. He is entirely a self-made man and has accumulated a handsome property by his own unaided efforts and good management.

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#### HENRY C. ALLEN.

Like many others of McHenry County's early settlers, this respected citizen of Ringwood traces his lineage back to the rugged colonists of Puritan faith, who have made their mental and moral influence felt across a continent. He came of the same stock as did Ethan Allen, the hero of Ticonderoga. His grandfather, Samuel, served under General Israel Putnam,

and did gallant service in the battle of Bennington under General Stark. His son, Samuel, the father of Henry C. Allen, was a native of Connecticut, but removed to New Fane, Vt., where he led the life of a hard-working farmer, and where he died at the age of seventy-eight years. His industry and his integrity commended him to the esteem of his neighbors, and his death was deeply mourned. His wife was Betsy Hill, who was of early Rhode Island stock. They were the parents of eight children: William, Bethania, Henry C., Charles F., Martin, Leander, Jane and Mary.

Mr. Henry C. Allen, the third of this large family in order of birth, was born at New Fane, Vt., April 24, 1820. Attendance at the common school in boyhood gave him the rudiments of a good English education, which he enlarged and extended in later years, through reading and observation. Life's battle began for him when, as a youth of twenty years, he commenced working as a laborer on the Boston & Lowell Railroad, the first line to be constructed in New England. He aided in the grading, laid ties and spiked rails; and, for several years thereafter, did similar work on roads in the Bay State. Industry, intelligently directed, finally secured for him the position of "boss" of a gang of 125 newly landed Irish immigrants. For so young a man the position was a trying one, but natural tact, joined to youth and a hardy constitution, enabled him to fill it admirably. For nearly fifteen years he followed this line of work, and on July 5, 1848, he married Miss Mary E. Holmes, who was born April 10, 1820, at Hopkinton, N. H. She was the youngest daughter of John Holmes and Betsy Flanders, whose other children were named Harrison, Eliza, Ira, Hannah, Lydia, Stillman and Julia. Mr. Holmes was the owner of a well-cultivated farm, and his personal character caused him to be honored by all who knew his worth. Toward the close of his life he removed to Groton, Mass., where he died in his sixty-sixth year.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Allen lived at various points in New Hampshire and Massachusetts, as his work upon the railroad called him here and there. In 1854 he resolved to "go West," and with his wife and son, Pulaski K., set out for Illinois. The journey from New York to Chicago was made by rail, and from Chicago to Ringwood, the point



*H C Allen*







*Mrs. H. C. Allen.*



of destination, by stage. Ringwood was reached May 1, 1854. Mr. Allen's capital was small and his first purchase of land was confined to a single acre. On this he built a frame house, which is still standing opposite the Ringwood creamery. Necessity prompted him to labor at any honest task which offered. In 1855 he was appointed station agent on the newly constructed line, the first to run through the village. For seven years he held this position, and then he found himself able, through industry and thrift, to buy a farm of fifty acres, which constituted a part of his late holdings of 279 acres, in the town of McHenry. For ten years Mr. Allen, in partnership with S. H. Walker, a pioneer settler of Ringwood, was engaged in buying and shipping wheat from Ringwood. In his early struggle for a competence his devoted wife was his counsellor and aid. Together they labored, and, in later years—as they descended life's hill, hand in hand—they looked back upon their early trials with a smile. Mutual confidence and mutual effort brought them a rich reward. On Tuesday, July 5, 1898, Mr. and Mrs. Allen celebrated their golden wedding at the residence of their son, Herbert W., in Ringwood, at which time they were the recipients of many beautiful presents. About 125 persons were present, and dinner and supper were served on the lawn, the tables being spread under the stately trees. Mr. Allen died at Ringwood, Oct. 7, 1901; his wife dying on January 26th of the same year, both being deeply lamented by their family and a wide circle of friends.

Mr. Allen was a Jacksonian Democrat of an uncompromising type. From 1855 until 1861 he held the office of postmaster, and for several years he was a member of the school board. In every relation of life—domestic, social and public—he showed himself worthy of the confidence which came to him as though it were his birthright. Mrs. Allen was a devout member of the Baptist church. They were the parents of two sons, Pulaski K. and Herbert W.

Herbert W., son of Henry C. and Mary E. (Holmes) Allen, was born in Ringwood, McHenry County, Ill., Oct. 3, 1860. He received a good common-school education attending the school of the veteran instructor, William Nickel. He always resided on the home farm, and on Dec. 1, 1886, was married at Nunda,

Ill., to Libbie C. Parks, who was born in Nunda Township, Dec. 8, 1857, the daughter of George E. and Charlotte (Kimball) Parks. (See sketch of George E. Parks in this volume.) After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Allen settled on the old homestead, where they still reside. Mr. Allen is a Democrat in political opinions, and during President Cleveland's second administration, served his fellow-citizens as postmaster of Ringwood and proved himself an efficient official. He has also held the office of Road Commissioner. Mr. and Mrs. Allen are members of the Universalist church.

#### JOHN AYLSWORTH.

John Aylsworth (deceased), at the time of his death, one of the most venerable and highly respected pioneers of McHenry County, was born in Providence, R. I., Feb. 1, 1800, the son of John and Hannah (Bacon) Aylsworth, on the paternal side being of English and old colonial ancestry. Anthony Alworth, as the name was originally spelled, settled at Providence, R. I., in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and here the progenitor of the American branch of the family was married to Mary Brown. The next in line of descent was their son John, and he was followed by a son named Anthony, who was a citizen of East Greenwich, R. I., and a soldier of the Revolutionary War. John Aylsworth, as the name had then come to be written, who was the son of Anthony, was born at East Greenwich, R. I., June 14, 1748, and pursued the vocation of a farmer, being the proprietor of a farm at Foster, R. I. He is reputed to have adopted the change in the spelling of the family patronymic just given, which has since been changed by "gradual development" to the present form. His first wife was Bethenia Fry, and she bore him four children, named Thomas, Martha, Mary and John. He became a Quaker and the "Friends" meeting house was located on his farm. He died at the ripe age of eighty-two years.

John (3), the youngest son of this family and father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Rhode Island, June 4, 1771, and, like many youths of that period, having a passion for the sea, ran away from home and became a sailor. During his sea-faring life he was "impressed," and served for a time on the old "Constitution"



(also known as "Old Ironsides") under Commodore Bainbridge, took part in an action which resulted in the capture of a British war-ship, and was detailed as one of the prize-crew to take the vessel to port. Before reaching their destination, the vessel and crew were captured by another British vessel, and Aylsworth was detained in a British prison until six months after peace was declared. His later years were spent at Providence, R. I., where he was married to Hannah Bacon, and they had six children: Thomas, John, Bethenia Fry, Elizabeth, Hannah and Mary. His wife having died, he was married to Hulda Norton, who bore him one daughter, Abby, who died young. He was a member of "The Roger Williams" Baptist church at Providence, and died at the age of seventy-seven years.

John Aylsworth—the sixth of the name in America and the subject of this sketch—was born in Providence, R. I., Feb. 1, 1800. His father being poor and his mother having died when he was ten years of age, he was compelled while quite young to labor for his own support. Without educational advantages he still had an eager desire to gain an education, learned to read and write and, at the age of seventeen years, entered the office of the "Providence Journal" as "office boy" under the proprietorship of John Miller, to whom (being an orphan) he was "bound out" as an apprentice to learn the printer's trade. Here he remained several years, becoming a skillful compositor and an expert manipulator of the old-fashioned Franklin press. He thus acquired a practical education to which, by the reading of books and newspapers, he added a large fund of general information, making him a well-informed man. In 1836 he went by steamboat to New York, and thence to Albany and Schenectady and by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and by lake to Detroit. The lake journey was made on the old steamer "United States," which was the last trip it ever made, as on the next voyage it was sunk. From Detroit he made the journey partly by stage and partly on foot, crossed Lake Michigan by schooner, and, on the first of May, reached Chicago, then so small a village that he was compelled to ask where he was. Fort Dearborn was occupied by United States soldiers, this being the year the fort was finally evacuated. There were several thousand Indians encamped in

the vicinity, probably awaiting their payment from the Government. Mr. Aylsworth visited their camp, but, as he was about to leave, was confronted by a big Indian who addressed him with something which sounded like "Schoon-law-good me-tass." This was interpreted as a demand for money to buy whisky with, but Mr. Aylsworth succeeded in getting away by running. Early in June he attended the launching of the steamboat "Chicago," and, on the 4th of July following, was present at the inauguration of work on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, when Governor Duncan celebrated the event by throwing out the first spadefull of earth at Bridgeport. "Fire-water" was abundant and many of the Irish laborers were intoxicated. At this time Mr. Aylsworth boarded in a log-house with a Mr. Aikens, and went to the celebration in company with two fellow-boarders, the party paying one dollar fare each for their passage by boat both ways. On the return the Captain of the boat on which the party had taken passage, got into a fight with the Captain of another boat, and they also witnessed a fight among a number of Irish laborers. Thinking he had seen enough of the celebration, Mr. Aylsworth walked home.

In June of this year Mr. Aylsworth obtained employment in the office of "The Chicago American," the second paper established in Chicago. Here he remained some two years as a journeyman printer, for a part of the time being head press-man. In his later years Mr. Aylsworth recalled meeting, in the office of "The American," "Long" John Wentworth about the time he became editor of "The Chicago Democrat," the first paper established in Chicago. Mr. Davis, the publisher of "The American," having become financially embarrassed, transferred the paper to a number of printers, of whom Mr. Aylsworth was one, the new firm taking the name of William Stuart & Co., with Mr. Stuart as editor. In the fall of 1836 Mr. Aylsworth united with the First Baptist church of Chicago, being immersed in the lake by Rev. J. T. Hinton. The assassination of Elijah P. Lovejoy by a pro-slavery mob at Alton, Ill., occurred in the following year, and, as an enemy of human slavery, he stood ready to offer his services to establish a new paper there if this seemed advisable. Originally an old line

Whig, he became a staunch Abolitionist, voting for James G. Birney in 1844, and, in after years, as a Republican, voted for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. He was a zealous champion of temperance and, in 1884, voted for the Prohibition candidate for President.

In the fall of 1838 Mr. Aylsworth settled on a claim in what is now Cobb Township, Lake County, entered eighty acres of land to which he added forty acres more by purchase, which he cleared and improved, finally becoming owner of a farm of 130 acres on which he erected substantial farm buildings. Selling his farm in 1868, he located at Barrington, Ill., investing his money in real estate, but about 1875-6 removed to Nunda, McHenry County, where he invested his means in valuable town property, and where he continued to reside during the remainder of his life. His death occurred May 15, 1901, at the age of ninety-one years, three months and fifteen days.

Mr. Aylsworth was married Oct. 28, 1838, to Anna Frances Foreman, born in Schoharie County, N. Y., Nov. 26, 1811, the daughter of N. V. and Lucretia (Babcock) Foreman—the latter a native of Oswego, N. Y. Two sons were born of this marriage: Nicholas J. and William Prince Aylsworth. The former graduated at the old Chicago University at twenty-five years of age, became a minister of the Christian church, and is now traveling in Europe. The younger is a graduate of the Bethany College, W. Va., also became a Christian minister and resides at Bethany, Neb. Mrs. Aylsworth died Feb. 12, 1885, and Mr. Aylsworth afterwards married Martha E. Cone, of Lake County, Ill., who still survives him. She is a member of the Christian church.

#### FRANK F. AXTELL.

According to well-established family tradition, Mr. Frank F. Axtell, one of the leading bankers of Harvard, Ill., is descended from sterling Scotch ancestry. The earliest appearance of the name Axtell, which has come to the knowledge of those who have made the family genealogy a subject of study, dates back to the year 1535, when the "Bonhommes" (Good Men) order of monks in a monastery at Gaddesden, an old town in Hertfordshire, England, made over their property to King Henry VIII. The original "Bonhommes"

were an order of hermits, or recluses, who are described as leading "gentle and simple lives," first appearing in France about the year 1217, and in England in 1283. Among the Hertfordshire order who joined in signing the deed transferring their property to the English King in 1535, appears the name of John Axstyle. A few years later (about 1538) began the registration of births in the parent churches of England, and in the records of St. Peter's church, at Berkhamstead, a town of Hertfordshire about twenty miles north of London—for the year 1539, appears the baptismal record of John Axtell, the son of John, and in 1541 that of William, also a son of John. The same church record, three-quarters of a century later, contains the name of Thomas Axtell, the son of William Axtell, as a subject of the baptismal ceremony, Jan. 15, 1619. It is believed that this Thomas Axtell was the progenitor of the Axtell family in America. Daniel Axtell, also born at Berkhamstead in 1622, and who became one of the Judges—afterwards known as "The Regicides"—who condemned Charles I. of England to death in 1649, was a brother of Thomas, and paid the penalty of his act by suffering execution after the accession of Charles II. to the throne. Thomas Axtell had a wife named Mary and they had a daughter Mary, who was baptized in the old St. Peter's church, Berkhamstead, Sept. 23, 1639, while the name of their son Henry appears on the record as baptized at the same place Oct. 15, 1641. The family left England in 1642, and finally settled in Sudbury, Mass. In 1643 this Thomas Axtell bought land in Sudbury and here, on June 1, 1644, his daughter Lydia was born. He died in Sudbury, Aug. 1, 1646, and was buried there. Henry Axtell, the son of Thomas, already mentioned as having been born in England in 1641, was five years old when his father died, and in 1660—he being then nineteen years of age—a tract of land south-west of Sudbury was incorporated as a town by the name of Marlboro, of which he became one of the proprietors, receiving for his portion fifteen acres in the central portion of the town, as a home lot. Besides this he was probably the owner of a portion of meadow and other outlying lands. June 14, 1665, he was married to Hannah Merriam. During the raid upon the white settle-



ments of Massachusetts led by King Philip, the famous Indian Chief, in the spring of 1676, in which many towns were almost entirely destroyed, Marlboro suffered severely and, among those who fell at the hands of the murderous savages, was Henry Axtell. An inventory of his property is dated April 1, 1676. The children of Henry and Hannah Axtell were: Samuel, born March 27, 1666, probably died in childhood; Hannah, born Nov. 18, 1667, life record not traced; Mary, born Aug. 8, 1670, married Zachariah Newton; Thomas, born April 16, 1672; Daniel, born Nov. 4, 1673; Sarah, born Sept. 18, 1675, untraced. Hannah, the widow of Henry Axtell, married Will Taylor, July 5, 1679.

To this point there have been traced four generations of the Axtell family in regular lineal descent, whose respective heads were all natives of Berkhamstead, in Hertfordshire, England, viz.: John Axtell (1), John Axtell (2) born 1539, and William, son of John Axtell (1), born 1541; Thomas Axtell, born Jan. 15, 1619, and Henry, born Oct. 15, 1641, died at Marlboro, Mass. Of their descendants born after the migration of the family to America, were the following: Thomas, born at Marlboro, Mass., in 1672, and moved to Grafton, Mass., in 1730; Joseph, born at Marlboro, 1705, and moved to Weston, Mass.; Daniel, born at Marlboro, 1734, moved to Weston, Mass. The sons of Daniel were: Moses, born 1755; Aaron, born 1757; Daniel (2), born 1759; Joseph, Alexander and Daughton. Of these Daniel (2), who was eighth in lineal descent, counting John Axtell (1) as the first, had children named Chauncey, Daniel and William by a first marriage, and Joseph D., Hodah and Sally. He lived in Unadilla, N. Y., was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and, according to family tradition, a member of Gen. Washington's body guard. Joseph D. Axtell, the son of Daniel, was born in Massachusetts in 1802, became a merchant and settled near Geneseo, N. Y. He was married in his native State to Eliza Osman, who died in 1883. Their children were: Alonzo E., born Feb. 6, 1825; Laura E., born June 17, 1827; Mary F., born March 16, 1830; Peter W., born July 2, 1832; Hannah A., born Sept. 25, 1836, and Marion, born Nov. 6, 1842. Joseph D. Axtell was a Major of militia in New York and conducted a successful mercantile

business at Geneseo. About 1852 he came to Genoa, Ill., where he remained seven or eight years, when he moved to Juda, Wis., and was there engaged in the stock business. He died in his Wisconsin home in 1873.

Alonzo E. Axtell, the son of John D., was born in Massachusetts, where he received a common-school education, and later attended an academy at Olean, N. Y. He was a carpenter by trade, and was employed for a time in this line at Friendship, Allegany County, N. Y., but afterwards engaged in merchandising. He resided here until 1851, when he removed to Russellville, Boone County, Ill., where he again engaged in the mercantile business. Removing to Harvard, McHenry County, in 1858, he continued in the same business until 1877, when he entered into the banking business, continuing until his death, March 31, 1889. Alonzo E. Axtell was married at Friendship, N. Y., to Mary M. Lambert, who was born on Dec. 12, 1826, the daughter of Frederick and Sally (Porter) Lambert. He and his wife were the parents of one son, Frank F. Axtell, of Harvard, Ill., whose name heads this sketch. Alonzo E. Axtell was a capable and successful business man, in addition to his banking interests being, at the time of his death, the owner of 600 acres of land in McHenry County, besides valuable real estate in Harvard. Originally an old line Whig, he became one of the founders of the Republican party in McHenry County, supporting John C. Fremont for President in 1856, and was a zealous Union man during the Civil War. Fraternally he was a charter member of the Harvard Lodge, A. F. & A. M.

Frank F. Axtell, the immediate subject of this sketch, and son of Alonzo E. Axtell, was born in Friendship, Allegany County, N. Y., Oct. 29, 1847, and was four years of age when his parents removed to Illinois, as stated in the preceding paragraph. He received his education in the Russellville and Harvard public schools, and, at an early age, became a clerk in his father's store. Removing to Chicago in 1872, he there became a member of the Chicago Board of Trade and was successfully engaged in the grain trade for over fifteen years. During a part of this time—1882, 1883 and a part of 1884—he was engaged in the grain and elevator business in Omaha, Neb., but during the



latter year returned to Chicago. Early in 1889, owing to his father's failing health, he returned to Harvard to take charge of the banking business of the latter, to which he succeeded on his father's death, continuing to the present time. In politics Mr. Axtell, following the example of his father, is a staunch Republican; for six years was Supervisor of Chemung Township, for several years served as City Treasurer of Harvard, and in 1898 was elected Treasurer of McHenry County, filling the office four years.

On May 24, 1871, Mr. Axtell was married at Woodstock, Ill., to Cerethia A. Austin, the daughter of Pasco Austin. (See sketch of Pasco Austin in this volume). Mr. and Mrs. Axtell have two children; E. Lyle, born in Chicago, and Darlene D., born in Omaha. The latter is a student in Vassar College, N. Y., and E. Lyle is cashier of his father's bank, for which position he has been especially well qualified by his careful business training. By his successful business career and probity of character, Mr. Frank F. Axtell has won an enviable reputation among the business men and the general public of McHenry County.

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#### GEORGE. W. AMES.

George W. Ames, veteran of the Civil War and farmer, Terra Cotta, McHenry County, was born in Fremont, Lake County, Ill., April 12, 1845, the son of Henry and Mary (Cooper) Ames. By the death of his father he was left an orphan in infancy and was brought up by strangers. Until 1857 he lived with Daniel Kingsley a farmer of Lake County, at an early age began working on the farm, meanwhile attending school during the winter season, thus gaining a common-school education. During the year just named, having reached the age of about twelve years, he came to McHenry County and there found employment on the farm with Darius C. Reynolds, with whom he remained several years.

During the first year of the Civil War (Sept. 11, 1861), in his seventeenth year, Mr. Ames enlisted at Geneva, Kane County, as a private in Company I (Captain Brown), Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and served until April 22, 1865, when he was honorably discharged on a surgeon's certificate of

physical disability. While in the service he took part in the battles of Black-Snake Gap and Resaca and the Atlanta campaign, besides numerous skirmishes. He performed his full duty as a soldier, but was never wounded and is not a pensioner. He suffered much from chronic diarrhoea in the field and, after the battle of Shiloh, spent some time in the hospital at Benton Barracks, near St. Louis, on his partial recovery being detailed on duty as a nurse, serving in this capacity one year, when he rejoined his regiment. Having been again taken sick after the battle of Resaca, he remained in the hospital for a time at Chattanooga and Rome, Ga., and still later at Indianapolis, Ind., and Mound City, Ill. It was while in hospital at the latter place that he received his discharge in April, 1865, as already stated. At that time he was in a seriously emaciated condition, his weight having been reduced to eighty-four pounds. After his discharge Mr. Ames returned to McHenry County, but was too feeble to undertake any employment for a period of about six months, when he resumed farm work, in which he continued for some years.

On Oct. 12, 1870, Mr. Ames was married in McHenry County, to Eliza McMillan, who was born on her father's farm in the neighborhood of her present home, Nov. 12, 1848, the daughter of Samuel and Jane (Wilson) McMillan. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ames settled on a farm one mile north of their present residence, where they remained three years. In 1873 they removed to their present location settling on a farm originally consisting of sixty-three acres, to which he has made additions until he is now the owner of 145 acres. This land, when it first came into possession of Mr. Ames, was without improvements, but has since had erected upon it a good two-story frame dwelling, with large barn and other farm buildings. The children of Mr. Ames are: William H., born Aug. 14, 1871; Thomas W., born Dec. 17, 1872; Mary J., born Jan. 10, 1875; Lizzie, born May 3, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Ames are among the most respected citizens of McHenry County, have by their own unaided exertions accumulated a handsome property and established for themselves a pleasant home. In political opinions Mr. Ames is a staunch Republican, and, by his service during the Civil

War, won for himself the reputation of a good soldier and a patriotic citizen.

Henry Ames, the father of George W., was a resident of the State of New York, where he married Mary Cooper, and they had children named: Charlotte L., Abbie A., Sophronia K., Amelius C., and George W. The father was a farmer and died in Lake County, Ill., the year his son George W. was born. The two sons of this family became soldiers of the Civil War, Amelius C., the older, as a member of Company C, Ninety-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and George W. in the Fifty-second Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, as already explained in his military history. (For sketch of Samuel McMillan, the father of Mrs. Ames, see biography of his son, Andrew Thomas McMillan, in this volume).

#### FRANK ADAMEK.

The Adamek family came from Bohemia, where John Adamek, the father of Frank, was born in 1808. John Adamek was a farmer and married in Bohemia, Anna Carmak, who was born in Bohemia, April 19, 1811. After marriage, Mr. Adamek lived in his native country for several years, and then came to America with his family. They sailed from Hamburg in May, 1856, in a large English sailing vessel, to Hull, England, and then proceeded by railroad to Liverpool, where they boarded a sailing vessel for New York, landing at the latter place after a voyage of twenty-eight days. They immediately came by railroad to Chicago, arriving July 7, 1856, where they resided for one year. Mr. Adamek worked in Peter Schuttler's wagon factory, where his son Joseph, who came to America in 1851, had previously engaged as a factory hand. July 8, 1857, he bought a farm consisting of 120 acres on the line of Cook and McHenry Counties, forty acres being in Cook and eighty acres in McHenry County. Mr. Adamek lived on this farm until his death in 1872, being then sixty-six years of age. He was a member of the Catholic church, and an industrious, hard-working man, highly respected by all of his acquaintances. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Adamek were John, who died in Bohemia, aged fifty-five years, leaving a family of several children, two of whom, Francis and Frank, came to

America; Joseph, who came to America in 1851; Anna, who came to America with her family, and Frank.

Frank Adamek, subject of this article, was born in Bohemia, May 18, 1845, being about ten years of age when he came to America with his parents, and remembers all the incidents of the voyage across the ocean. He came to McHenry County, in July, 1857. Mr. Adamek has a good common-school education, which he gained partly in Bohemia, where he learned the rudiments of arithmetic and reading, and partly in the United States, having attended the public school in Chicago one year and afterwards, when he came to Algonquin Township, attended the district school for three winters. Mr. Adamek made a special study of United States History, and still preserves his school text-books on that subject. He began to work on a farm at an early age, and when about twenty years old, engaged to work for his brother, who conducted a farm and feed store and was also interested in the ice business. Mr. Adamek afterwards remained on the home farm and cared for his aged parents until he was about twenty-seven years of age, when he bought eighty acres of land in McHenry County adjoining the old homestead. He married in Chicago, Feb. 22, 1874, Annie Kvidera, born in Bohemia, July 29, 1855, daughter of Vaclav and Lydia Kvidera.

Vaclav Kvidera was a Bohemian, who married in Bohemia and engaged in the manufacture of crockery. He came to America in 1860 and lived in Chicago one year, but in 1861, removed to Algonquin Township and bought a farm of ninety acres of unimproved land, which he converted into a high state of cultivation and erected good farm buildings. Seven years later, he went to Chicago and worked in a crockery factory, but in his old age returned to Algonquin Township, where he died in 1900, aged about eighty-four years. His wife died when about seventy-seven years of age. Their children were: Mary, Teresa, James, Lydia, Anna, Frances and Prokop. Mr. and Mrs. Kvidera were Catholics in religion.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Adamek settled on the homestead and by his industry and good management added to its original holding until they owned 132 acres of excellent farming land, which is still in Mr. Adamek's



*John Bunker*







*Urania Bunker*







George T. Bunker,  
Age 14.

Francis M. Bunker,  
Age 39

George. K. Bunker,  
Age 65.

John F. Bunker,  
Age 88.

FOUR GENERATIONS OF THE BUNKER FAMILY—TAKEN NOV. 1, 1891.

LIBRARY  
OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

possession. Mr. and Mrs. Adamek moved to Algonquin in 1890 and bought a pleasant home. In politics Mr. Adamek is a stanch Republican and has served as Constable four years, Village Clerk two years and Justice of the Peace four years, being at the present time (1903) an incumbent of the latter office. Fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F. of Cary Station, also a member of the Modern Woodmen of Amreica, in which organization he has held the office of clerk for three years. He was at one time a member of the Masonic Lodge of Algonquin, but that organization is now discontinued. He is a member of the Bohemia Society, C. S. P. S., which consists entirely of Bohemians. Mr. and Mrs. Adamek are the parents of Antoinette P., Amelia, Frank J., Anna, Elsie L., George E., and Isabel G. Mrs. Adamek is a member of the Royal Neighbors. Mr. Adamek is a well-known, straightforward citizen and his father's family were the first Bohemians to settle in Algonquin Township. In 1883 Mr. Adamek moved to Elgin, where he lived for three years as an agent for a land company.

#### THE BUNKER FAMILY.

George Bunker, of French Huguenot descent, came from France to Charlestown, Mass., in 1634, and was admitted into the church at Charlestown, Feb. 21, 1634-5. He married Judith, whose family name is not known. She was admitted into the church April 17, 1636, and died Oct. 10, 1646. His second marriage was in 1647 with Margaret Howe, who was admitted to the church July 18, 1658, and died in 1660. George Bunker died at Malden, Mass., in 1664. His children were: Mary; Martha, who married John Starr; Elizabeth, who married Edward Punt; John; Benjamin, and Jonathan, who married Mary Howard. The following genealogy is given in lineal descent down to the Bunker family of Woodstock, Ill.

John, the son of George Bunker (the founder of the American branch of the family), married Hannah Millons at Malden, Mass., April 7, 1655. Their children were: Hannah, born in October, 1656; Mary, born Dec. 9, 1658, married Jonathan Sprague; John, born Dec. 16, 1660, died in childhood; John, born in Cambridge, May, 1662; Joseph, born in Boston, February, 1665-6.

and followed the trade of a felt-maker; Edward, a mariner and served in the army in Canada. Benjamin, the son of John, graduated at "Herald College" in 1658, and was admitted to the church April 27, 1660. He preached as a colleague with the distinguished Wigglesworth until 1663, and then became pastor of a church at Malden. He died Feb. 3, 1668-70. The son Jonathan, who was the first owner of Bunker Hill, was baptized April 8, 1638, and married Mary Howard, Jan. 30, 1662-3. Their children were: twins, born and died Jan. 1, 1664-5; Jonathan, born Feb. 1, 1666-7; Mary, born Feb. 27, 1668-9; Benjamin, born Feb. 20, 1670-71, died in childhood; Benjamin, born March 30, 1672, and Elizabeth, who married J. W. Howard, Jr. Jonathan Bunker, Sr., died of smallpox June 2, 1678. Jonathan, son of Jonathan and Mary (Howard) Bunker, was baptized at the old South Church, Boston, June 20, 1686, being then twenty-one years of age. He was a mariner, having sailed with Capt Foster, and died while on a voyage.

Captain Benjamin Bunker, son of Jonathan and Mary (Howard) Bunker, was an inn-keeper and married Abigail Fowler in 1698. Their children were: Benjamin, born July 8, 1702, and died in infancy; Benjamin, born April 12, 1708; Abigail, born Dec. 8, 1710, died in infancy; John, born Jan. 4, 1714; Jonathan, born March 14, 1716, died Nov. 25, 1721; George, born April 8, 1717, died Nov. 9, 1721.

Benjamin, son of Capt. Benjamin and Abigail (Fowler) Bunker, was a tin-plate worker, married Martha Chamberlain, and their children were: Abigail, born July 29, 1730; Benjamin Chamberlain, born Jan. 5, 1732; Martha, born Sept. 23, 1733; Jonathan, born March 29, 1736.

Benjamin Chamberlain Bunker, son of Benjamin and Martha (Chamberlain) Bunker, was the grandfather of George K. Bunker, of Woodstock, and the last owner of Bunker Hill. He was by trade a japanner and married Aug. 11, 1766, Hannah Frothingham, a widow, nee Hannah Breed. Their children were: Martha, born Feb. 10, 1768, married Edward Hall; Hannah, born Aug. 10, 1769, married Micah Lawrence; John Frothingham, born Nov. 1, 1803, married Urania Tuttle; Mary, born Jan. 14, 1806, married Luther Morley; Susannah, born Nov. 21, 1809, married Orville B. Hitch-



cock; Eliza, born Aug. 21, 1812, married Dr. F. Andros; David, born June 14, 1815, died in childhood; Hannah, born Sept. 11, 1818, died in childhood; Harriet, born April 30, 1821, married Dennis B. Gregory.

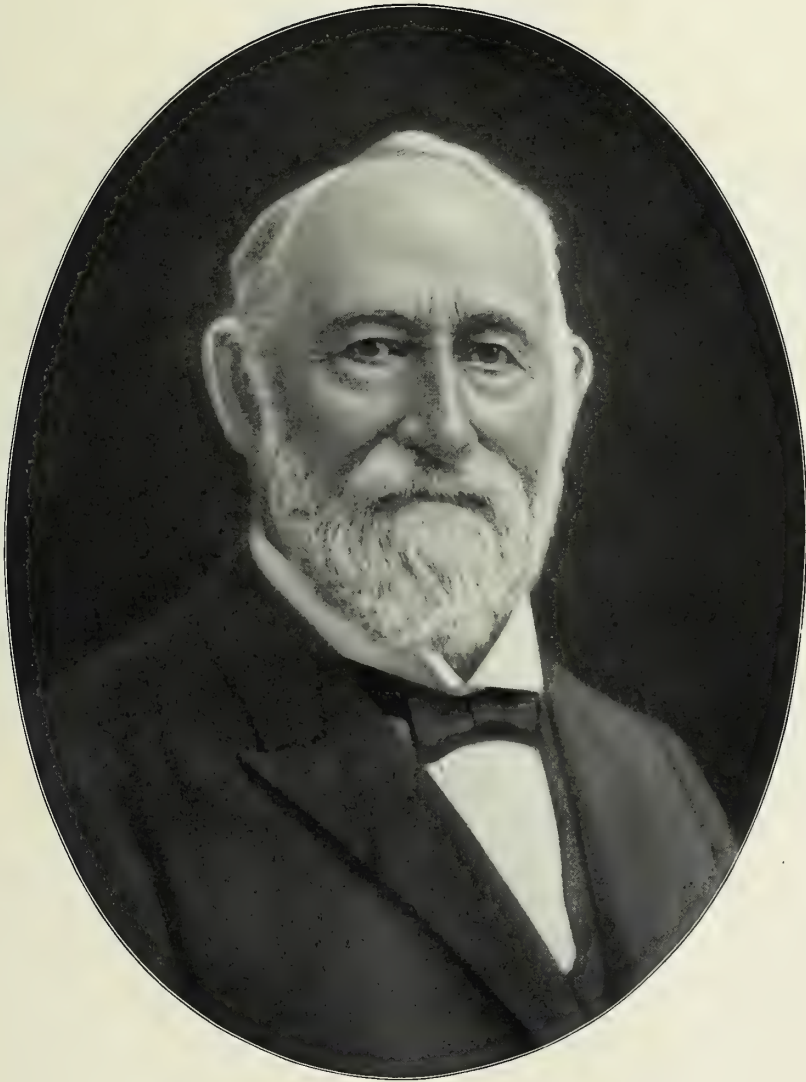
John Frothingham, son of Benjamin Chamberlain and Hannah (Frothingham) Bunker, was born at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Nov. 1, 1803, and married at Smyrna, Chenango County, N. Y., Sept. 18, 1825, to Urania Tuttle, who was born at Norwich, Conn., Nov. 25, 1806, and died in Woodstock Ill., June 20, 1884, aged seventy-seven years and seven months. The children of the family—of whom the last three were born in Illinois—were: George K., born Nov. 1, 1826, married Martha Cottle, Oct. 25, 1849; Lucia L. and Lucy A. (twins), born Jan. 10, 1829; Lucia, married William Ormsby, and died June 17, 1885; Lucy married George Young; Ezekiel H., born March 10, 1831; Dwight, born Oct. 15, 1832; Jane, born Dec. 25, 1834, died Dec. 8, 1848; Melvin, born March 17, 1837, married Mary Honey; Clarissa, born July 5, 1839, married John D. Hamilton; Alvin S., born Feb. 22, 1842; Harriet M., born Dec. 29, 1843; Amos K., born March 1, 1846, married Adell Sherman; Susan, born April 30, 1848, married Dr. George Williamson; Mary, born Feb. 27, 1852, married Albert E. Bourne. All grew up to maturity except Jane, and all the rest reared families except Alvin, who was killed at the battle of Stone River, Tenn., Dec. 31, 1862, aged twenty-one years, ten months and nine days.

#### GEORGE K. BUNKER.

There is no more deservedly historic name in McHenry County than that of George K. Bunker. He is descended from sterling colonial stock through the Massachusetts family, who, in colonial times, were the owners of Bunker Hill, in the (then) suburb of Boston, from which the famous battle fought in the first year of the War of the Revolution, took its name. John Bunker, the father of George K., was the son of Benjamin Bunker, and born at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Nov. 1, 1803. He received the ordinary common-school education of that day, but, at the age of eighteen, met with an accident, in consequence of a tree

falling on him, which compelled the amputation of one of his legs. Having thus been lamed for life, he learned the tailor's trade and afterwards removed to Smyrna, N. Y., where, on Sept. 18, 1825, he married Eurania Tuttle, born in Norwich, Conn., Nov. 25, 1806. From Smyrna Mr. Bunker moved in 1836 to Erie County, Penn., and there engaged in mercantile business and the manufacture of potash at Beaver Dam. After remaining there seven years, in the early part of 1844, he came to Illinois, arriving on April 5th in what is now Dorr Township, three miles east of the present site of the town of Woodstock, making the journey with a two-horse team in five weeks, of which five days were spent between Chicago and McHenry County. Here he bought forty acres of Government land paying fifty dollars for it, later buying a claim of forty acres more upon which a log-cabin had been built. This cabin had an ordinary puncheon floor, stick chimney and "shake" roof, the whole constructed without the use of nails. Mr. Bunker brought with him his family, then consisting of his wife and nine children. Being lame, he could do little towards improving his land, consequently much of the work of developing the new homestead fell upon the older son, George K., then a tall and vigorous youth of a little over seventeen years of age. Mr. Bunker was elected a Justice of the Peace in 1848, and there being much business for this officer, removed to Woodstock, where he engaged in the lumber trade to which, in the spring of 1854, he added the mercantile business in partnership with his son George K. The latter having retired the next year, the mercantile branch of the business was continued in partnership with his son Amos. Besides acquiring a wide reputation as one of the early business men of Woodstock, Mr. Bunker held the office of Township Treasurer for some thirty years as well as that of Assessor for a considerable period. He was highly respected for his business integrity and as a public-spirited citizen.

George K. Bunker, was born at Smyrna, N. Y., Nov. 1, 1826—his father being then just twenty-three years old. At ten years of age he accompanied his parents to Erie County, Penn., and, in 1844, to McHenry County, Ill. He received a common-school ed-



*G. K. Bunker*







*Mrs G K Brunker*

CHINESE

OF THE

CHINESE

ucation in his native State and in Pennsylvania, learned to rive and shave shingles in his boyhood, using the shavings and pitch-pine knots to make a light by which he studied at night. In this way he qualified himself to teach and, at the age of seventeen years, began teaching his first school at Beaver Dam, Penn. The school was taught in a house built of hemlock logs with the ordinary old-fashioned fireplace and stick chimney, and was well attended, many pupils coming a distance of two or three miles. Some were grown men and women, a few reaching the age of twenty-two to twenty-four years. Although several years their junior, Mr. Bunker's mental acquirements and powerful physique—being over six feet in height—commanded the respect of his pupils, and enabled him to control the school with little difficulty in spite of his youth. The removal to Illinois was made early the next spring (1844), Mr. Bunker having a wagon and three horses, while Titus Brown, a neighbor who accompanied them, had one horse and a wagon. The women and small children usually slept in the house of some friendly settler, while the men and older boys slept in the wagons—their food being prepared at the settler's fireside. The roads were bad—in many cases no roads at all—and on one of the flats north of Chicago Mr. Bunker repeatedly had to wade into the slough and hold up the horses' heads to keep them from drowning. In some places signs had been stuck up—"No Bottom." The first year Mr. Bunker helped his father upon the new farm in Illinois, and the year following hired out, receiving twelve dollars per month, thereby earning enough to buy eighty acres of land from their old neighbor, Titus Brown, who removed to Wisconsin. Mr. Bunker improved his land and built upon it a frame house, riving the shingles out of oak logs, thus putting to use the art which he had before acquired in Pennsylvania. The next winter (1844-5) he taught near the present site of the town of Ridgefield, receiving ten dollars per month—teaching twenty-four days for a month—and "boarding round" among his pupils. He had forty-six pupils, many of them young men and women—some of whom are now well-known citizens of McHenry County. The directors were Uriah Cottle, Jesse Slavin and Henry Jewett. The next

winter he taught on the edge of Queen Ann Prairie near Woodstock, receiving twelve dollars per month and board as before. The directors of this school were John Dickerson, Andrew Scott and Clinton Murphy, only one of whom (Mr. Scott) now survives, a resident of Kansas. The control of these pioneer schools often depended upon the physical strength of the teacher, especially when there were large boys and grown men in the school. This was considered a hard school to manage, the "big boys" having previously "put out" two teachers, and the Directors, in engaging Mr. Bunker, proposed that one of their number should always be present to assist him to preserve order. This Mr. Bunker declined, declaring that he would "teach the school or quit"—and this he did successfully. The next winter was also spent in teaching. During the summer Mr. Bunker worked upon the farm, using the old-fashioned farm implements of the time—has cut grain with an old-fashioned cradle and turned the soil with a plow furnished with a wooden mould-board and its sheet-iron covering.

On Oct. 25, 1849, Mr. Bunker was married at Marengo, Ill., to Martha A. Cottle, the daughter of Uriah Cottle, a pioneer settler of McHenry County. After marriage he spent the next five years in improving his farm, which he traded at the end of this period for property in Woodstock, to which he removed and engaged in mercantile business with his father. Having sold out his interest in the store at Woodstock a year later, he went to Ridgefield and became the first station agent and express agent there on the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, which had just been built to that point, becoming the first settler at Ridgefield, which is now a thriving village. He also served as Postmaster and Justice of the Peace, managed a general store and a farm of seventy acres, to which he added until it amounted to 136 acres, which he still owns. After residing at Ridgefield fifteen years, Mr. Bunker returned to Woodstock and again engaged in the mercantile business with his brother Amos, which has been continued to the present time. In politics he is an earnest Republican and one of the founders of the party in McHenry County—having cast his vote for Fremont and later for Lincoln. While



he has often had the opportunity of securing office, he has evinced no desire to do so, though never evading the duties of a good citizen—having been elected Mayor of Woodstock (two terms in succession), has been Justice of the Peace three terms, several times member of the Board of Education and always an advocate of good schools and public improvements. He has prospered in business, besides his mercantile interest being a large holder of real estate, including six farms in McHenry County (over 1,000 acres), together with several valuable residences and other real estate in Woodstock. He was one of the early stockholders in the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and was one of the founders and is one of the Directors of the State Bank of Woodstock, besides being one of the founders and principal stockholders in the Bank at Nunda, of which he is at the present time President. He was one of the largest contributors to the stock of the Oliver Typewriter Company, in order to secure that valuable plant as an addition to the industries of Woodstock. Mr. Bunker is essentially what may be called a "self-made man," having gained his present position by industry, economy, integrity and sound judgment, and in his long and successful career has ever received the efficient aid of his faithful wife. Although advanced in life, his erect, vigorous and well-preserved physique, united with a clear and alert intellect, which has been broadened by study and good reading, marks him as one of the best specimens of the early pioneers of McHenry County, and, at his present advanced age, he daily attends to business with as much promptness and regularity as he did in his younger days. A man of friendly disposition, he has a great love of simple home life, and takes great pleasure in relating reminiscences of pioneer days.

MRS. GEORGE K. BUNKER is the daughter of Uriah and Martha (McClure) Cottle, one of the earliest pioneers of McHenry County, being the first settler in Dorr Township and the second in McHenry County. Mr. Cottle was born in Nicholas County, Va. (now West Virginia), June 22, 1800—the son of William and Martha Cottle. His father was of English and Scotch descent, was a frontier farmer in Virginia, and died on his farm in Nicholas County. Two of his sons served in the War

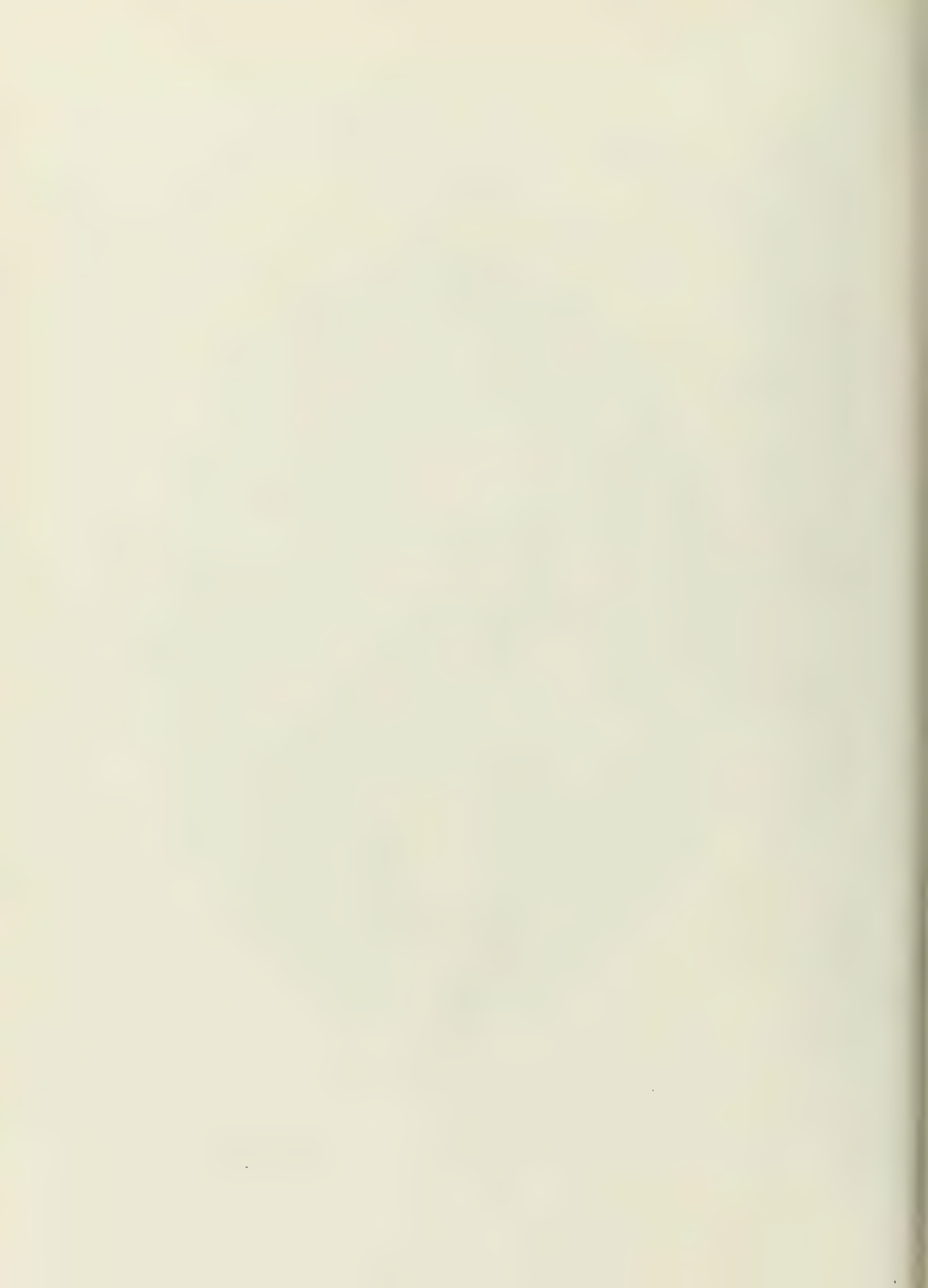
of 1812, one of them being killed in battle. Uriah received the education common in his day, grew up on his father's farm and was married in his native county to Martha McClure, daughter of Charles and Martha McClure, born July 13, 1801. Charles McClure was of Scotch ancestry, came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1835, and spent the remnant of his days there, dying at the home of his son John, in Dorr Township, in 1844.

After their marriage Uriah Cottle and wife settled on a farm adjoining that of his father in Nicholas County, Va., but in 1832 he removed to LaPorte, Ind. In the fall of 1834 he came to McHenry County, Ill., selected a claim on the edge of Pleasant Prairie in what is now Dorr Township, indicating his title by arranging the trunks of four small trees in the form of the foundation of a house, as notice that the claim was taken. He was accompanied by Calvin Spencer, with whom he went twelve miles southwest where Mr. Spencer located a claim on what is now the site of the town of Marengo. The next spring Mr. Cottle brought out his family, arriving at his destination April 7, 1835. The location selected by Mr. Spencer took the name of Pleasant Grove, and Mr. Cottle's "The Virginia Settlement." The latter was the second white settler in McHenry County, James Gillian, who also came from West Virginia and settled in Algonquin Township, Nov. 18, 1834, being the first. (See sketch of James Gillian). Mr. Cottle left Virginia with the Gillians but returned to LaPorte for his family. Mrs. Gillian, who was an aunt of Uriah Cottle, was the first white woman to reside permanently in McHenry County, while Mrs. Uriah Cottle was the second. The Cottle family spent the first summer in a log pen, without roof or door, and with dirt floor, but in the fall Mr. Cottle covered it with "oak shakes" and put in a puncheon floor. Indians were still numerous thereabout, and frequently came to the house to trade or beg food, but were peaceable and made no trouble. Mr. Cottle was one of the early Methodists in his section, and his house became the home of the early itinerants of that denomination, one of whom, Rev. William Royal, in the summer of 1835, preached in the Cottle cabin the first sermon preached in McHenry County. The first religious organization was formed here in 1836. Mr.



*Wm. Cottle*

made first claim in town of Dorr, Sept, 1834.







*Mrs. Irish Cottle.*



Cottle was a class leader and an excellent singer, and these early meetings were greatly enjoyed. He afterwards built a log barn with a threshing floor in the middle, in which Methodist meetings were regularly held, and the barn is still standing where first built. Mr. Cottle's children were Sarah M. D., born in West Virginia, Nov. 25, 1824; Martha A. (Mrs. Bunker), born Oct. 1, 1826; Cyrus W., born Jan 21, 1829, died in Virginia; Margaret R. L., born Dec. 23, 1833, (died in September, 1836—the second death of a white person in McHenry County—that of one of the Gillian children believed to have been the first); Charles W., born June 25, 1827; John C., born Jan. 1, 1839; Libbie C., born Oct. 25, 1841, and now the only living sister of Mrs. George K. Bunker. She married Hiram N. Wayne, a merchant of Center Point, Iowa, who was a soldier in the Civil War, serving in the Fifteenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, until the close of the war. Mr. Cottle died at the age of about sixty-two years. The first school in McHenry County was taught during the winter of 1836, in the Cottle home, by Alvira Cornish, who came from the vicinity of the present town of Algonquin. There were seven pupils—Sarah and Martha Cottle, Jeanette, Sabina and William Walkup, and Lewis and George Boone. Mrs. Bunker, then nine years old, well remembers this school. It was customary for the boys and girls in those pioneer days to drop corn in the corn-planting season, and Mrs. Bunker, in 1835, then eight years of age, went with Charles McClure, her uncle, to James Gillian's, near the present site of Algonquin, and dropped corn after a team of oxen breaking prairie, and this was done for others of the neighbors for several weeks. The team used in breaking prairie consisted of four yoke of cattle made up from the neighborhood. She enjoyed this work and, as she had no older brothers, frequently assisted her father in this and other out-door work. While a young girl she became accustomed to horse-back exercise and could ride a horse on the run across the prairie. Mrs. Bunker, in her later years, has retained the energy and vivacity of which she laid the foundation by her out-door exercise in early life. The old Cottle farm is now the property of George K. Bunker.

FRANCIS M. BUNKER, son of George K. and

Martha (Cottle) Bunker, was born at Ridgefield, Ill., Dec. 7, 1852. He received his education in the Woodstock schools and in a Business College of Chicago. After leaving school, he engaged in the mercantile business at Woodstock, and is now one of the leading business men of the city. At Woodstock, Ill., June 28, 1876, he married Lizzie E. Johnson, born in Woodstock, June 28, 1855, daughter of Dr. Orvis S. and Esther (Powers) Johnson.

Dr. Johnson was born in Vermont and descended from a line of Puritan ancestors who had long been residents of that State. His brother, Joel H. Johnson, was a well-known pioneer of Woodstock. Dr. Johnson received his medical training in the Rush Medical College of Chicago. He married in Richmond, McHenry County, Ill., Esther Powers, a native of New York State and a daughter of E. and Mary Powers, who were early settlers of Richmond, Ill. Dr. and Mrs. Johnson were the parents of Ida, who died at the age of three years, and Lizzie E. (Mrs. Francis M. Bunker). Mrs. Johnson died in Woodstock when twenty-five years of age, and Dr. Johnson married a second time, and of this marriage there were children named Park L. and Orvis Lisle (died in childhood). Immediately after completing his course in the medical college, Dr. Johnson established himself in the drug business and the practice of medicine in Woodstock. He was a man of high moral character, was highly respected and a strong advocate of temperance. He died in middle life, being but forty-four years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Bunker became the parents of children named George Tracy, born June 21, 1877; Blanche Caroline, born April 22, 1879; Parke Johnson, born Feb. 16, 1881; Alice Martha, born Sept. 12, 1885; Eugene Francis, born Feb. 4, 1888, and Donald Columbus, born June 28, 1892, and died April 20, 1897, aged four years and ten months.

FLORENCE M. BUNKER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George K. Bunker, was educated in the high school at Woodstock and Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio. Immediately after graduating from college, she spent one year with twenty-five of her class traveling in Europe. They were in charge of one of the college professors, and devoted much of their time, which was spent in Paris, to the study of French.



In Woodstock, May 16, 1894, Miss Bunker was married to Charles B. Wright, a graduate of the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill. They have a pleasant residence in Woodstock, and Mr. Wright is Cashier of the Citizens' Bank at Nunda, Ill.

AMOS K. BUNKER, a well-known citizen of McHenry County and a merchant of Woodstock, was born in Dorr Township, McHenry County, March 1, 1846, a son of John Frothingham and Urania (Tuttle) Bunker. He received his education in the common schools, and after his father removed to Woodstock in 1852, he attended the early schools of that city and also a seminary kept by the Rev. R. K. Todd. When a boy, he became a clerk in his father's mercantile establishment in Woodstock, and served in this capacity until he became a partner with his father, who later was succeeded by W. B. Austin, a brother-in-law of Mr. Bunker. Later Mr. Bunker purchased the entire business, but in 1889 was joined by his brother, Mr. George K. Bunker, and the partnership became the well-known firm of Bunker Brothers, which is now one of the largest establishments of its kind in McHenry County. On the day of the great Chicago fire, Oct. 9, 1871, the old Bunker store, then standing on the site of the present City Hall, was destroyed by fire. Immediately afterwards the firm bought the old Patty House, a four story brick building, at No. 3—4 Phoenix Block, on the south side of the Public Square, and at this stand they have since conducted an extensive business in groceries and hardware under the firm name of the Bunker Brothers.

Mr. Bunker was married to Adell, daughter of Henry and Sarah (Jewett) Sherman, and they have two daughters, Neva B. and Letah. Politically Mr. Bunker is a Republican and has served as a member of the Board of Aldermen of Woodstock eight years, and School Treasurer of Dorr Township, fifteen years. He is a member of the Calvary Commandery, K. T. Mr. Bunker is a man of excellent business qualifications and a citizen highly esteemed for his integrity.

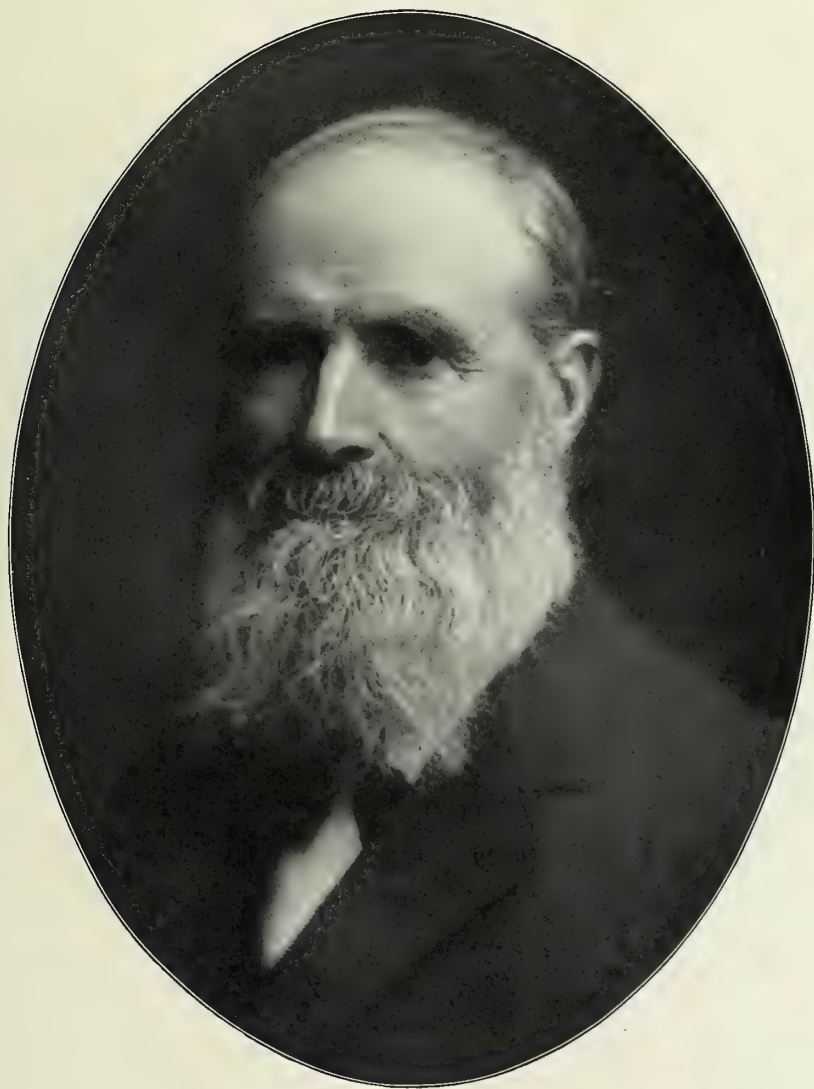
JOEL H. JOHNSON, a pioneer of Woodstock, Ill., was born in Woodstock, Windsor County, Vt. His ancestors were of Puritan stock and among the first immigrants to New England. Mr. Johnson lived on the farm near Woodstock, Vt., until he was eighteen years of age, and his

educational advantages consisted of three months' attendance each winter at the district school and one year at a seminary in Newbury, Vt. He removed to Illinois, arriving in Chicago, September, 1836, and from there came to and located in a portion of what was then Cook County, but which, in 1836-7, was detached and named McHenry County, being fully organized as a county in June, 1837. He attended and cast his first vote at the first McHenry County election, and at that time helped to organize the Democratic party, of which he has since continued to be an active member. In 1838 he was appointed Deputy Clerk of the Circuit and County Commissioner's Courts, and, on July 4, 1849, received the appointment as Clerk of the Circuit Court, an office he held for fifteen years. Besides serving his fellow citizens in the various offices mentioned, he filled the office of County Commissioner's Clerk, four years, and Probate Justice of the Peace, one term. In June, 1849, the subject of building a railroad began to be discussed, and Mr. Johnson and several other prominent men of Woodstock secured the location of the line from Chicago to Janesville, Wis., now owned by the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. Having been elected a Director of the company in October, 1854, he was immediately placed upon the line to obtain the right-of-way, attend to the settlement of land damages, and solicit subscriptions to the capital stock. He was largely instrumental in increasing the latter to over two million dollars. At a meeting of the stockholders, held in 1857, Mr. Johnson declined a re-election, and retired from the company and engaged in the practice of law at Woodstock, continuing until 1878, when he was elected Police Magistrate for the city of Woodstock, an office he has held continuously to the present time. Mr. Johnson gave to his home city the name of Woodstock, from his native village of Woodstock, Vt.

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#### JOSEPH CLARK BUTTON.

Among the early settlers of McHenry County few have occupied a more prominent position than Joseph Clark Button, whose name heads this article. The American branch of the Button family was of English origin, according to tradition, being descended from two broth-



*J. C. Button*





*Mrs J. C. Button*





ers who came to America in the early settlement of the New England States. Gideon Button, who was a prominent pioneer and farmer, of Hebron, Washington County, N. Y., is believed to have emigrated from one of the New England States. He married and raised a family of thirteen children, all born in Washington County, N. Y., their names and dates of birth being as follows: David, born Aug. 19, 1792; Hannah, born April 17, 1794; Putnam, born July 10, 1796; Hadasah, born Nov. 27, 1797; Gideon S., born Jan. 29, 1800; Polly, born Nov. 19, 1801; James, born June 27, 1803; Susannah, born Dec. 8, 1804; Delia, born Nov. 13, 1806; Jerusha, born March 4, 1809; Belinda, born Nov. 11, 1810; Charles, born May 27, 1813; Eunice, born Sept. 25, 1815. Belinda (born in 1810) is the only one (1903) still living. The senior Button was a member of the Presbyterian church, and, in his later years, a Whig in politics.

David, the oldest son, received an ordinary common-school education, became a farmer, and on Jan. 20, 1814, was married at Brimfield, Mass., by the Rev. Vail, to Permillia Lumbard, born at that place, the daughter of Aaron and Lucy Lumbard. Mr. Lumbard was of Puritan New England stock and of English descent, and a farmer by profession. His children were: Ruth, born Feb. 20, 1776; Luceba, born March 27, 1781; Zelotis, born Feb. 15, 1783; Abiram, born May 10, 1784; Orpha, born Jan. 17, 1787; Erastus, born Sept. 20, 1788; Darius, born May 12, 1791; Permillia, born Dec. 8, 1794; Elijah, born March 23, 1799; Eliza, born Sept. 7, 1801; Zelotis, born July 7, 1804. Aaron Lumbard, the father, who was a Revolutionary soldier, lived to an advanced age, and died on the family homestead at Brimfield, which he bequeathed to his children. His wife, Lucy Lumbard, survived him some years, during which she drew a pension as a soldier's widow.

After his marriage to Miss Lumbard, David Button, settled first at Pawlet, Vt., where they lived four years, and then at Nunda, N. Y., where he located with his family and cleared up a farm in the wilderness. This farm he subsequently sold and opened a new one in Portage, in the same county. The children of this marriage were: Luceba, born at Pawlet, Vt., March 18, 1816; Lucretia, born at Pawlet,

Vt., July 4, 1818; Joseph Clark, born in Nunda, N. Y., June 14, 1820; Louisa, born at Nunda, N. Y., April 19, 1823; Fannie, born at Portage, N. Y., Sept. 20, 1827; Permillia, born at Portage, N. Y., Feb. 17, 1829; Belva M., born at Portage, N. Y., April 2, 1832. David Button proved himself a successful farmer for his day. Mr. and Mrs. Button were members of the Presbyterian church, and he assisted to organize the first Sunday School at Hunt's Hollow, N. Y., of which he was the first Superintendent, and was also one of the organizers of the Presbyterian church at the same place. In politics he was an old-line Whig. He died Sept. 7, 1833, a little over forty-one years of age. About 1836 Mrs. David Button married as her second husband Edward Doty, of Allegany County, N. Y., and they soon after settled on the old Button homestead, but in 1862, removed to McHenry County, Ill., settling near Ridgefield. Two children were born to them, viz.: Helen, born at Portage, N. Y., Nov. 25, 1838, now the widow of Gilbert Yule, of Elgin, Ill.; and Kitty Alvira, born at Portage, N. Y., April 1, 1842, now the widow of the late Hon. H. L. Humphrey of Hudson, Wis.

Joseph Clark Button, as previously stated, was a native of Nunda, N. Y., born June 14, 1820. Having lost his father by death at thirteen years of age, and being an only son in a family of seven children, he was early initiated into the hardships of farm life, and the care of the family having largely devolved upon him, his chances of acquiring an education were meager. When about seventeen years old he spent one winter's term in a district school, after which he got a few weeks' instruction in a select school taught by Dr. Z. Joslin, and, at the age of nineteen, on the advice of his tutor, began teaching a winter school in the town of Allen, Allegany County, N. Y. Having spent the next winter in an academy at Nunda, he thereafter combined teaching during the winter with farm-work during the summer, until he had reached the age of twenty-four years. April 4, 1844, he was married by the Rev. Hamilton, to Roxana Thompson, born at Colerain, near Springfield, Mass., Aug. 3, 1820, the daughter of Robert W. and Fannie (Bruffee) Thompson. Mr. Thompson (the father of Mrs. Button) was of Massachusetts Puritan stock, and the son of Wilson

Thompson, a substantial farmer who died at the age of ninety-six years. The wife of the latter was a Miss Wilson, who was born in Scotland. Their children were Joseph Calvin, Jonathan, Margaret, Mary, Nancy, Electa, Luther and Robert W. Robert W. Thompson adopted his father's vocation as a farmer, and he and his wife, Fannie Bruffee (who was a member of a colonial Massachusetts family), after their marriage, settled in Nunda, Livingston County, N. Y., where he opened up a farm in the woods. He is described as a very capable man, skillful with all kinds of tools, whether as a carpenter or a blacksmith, and capable of making all sorts of implements needed by the pioneers. He made Mrs. Joseph C. Button a set of cherry furniture, which she still uses and which is now in a fine state of preservation. He improved his farm, erected substantial buildings, and made a good pioneer home where he died aged seventy-seven years. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church, and, as a prominent and respected citizen, he held a number of town offices. In politics he was an earnest opponent of slavery. The children of this family were: Nancy, Roxana (who became Mrs. Button), Robert, William, Edwin, Eliza A. and Melissa.

In May, 1844, a few weeks after his marriage, Mr. Joseph C. Button made a trip to Illinois to look up a new home for himself and wife, coming by way of the lakes from Buffalo, N. Y., to Kenosha, Wis., and thence across the country, looking at land as he went, until he reached Hebron Township, McHenry County. Here he decided to settle, and proceeded to the land office at Chicago to secure his patent for the land selected, but found it had already been entered by some one else. Returning to McHenry County, he met with Christopher Walkup, by whom he was most hospitably entertained at his home in what he called "the Virginia Settlement," and was finally induced to locate in Dorr Township. Mr. Walkup sold him ninety acres of prairie and timber land, and allowed him to enter forty acres more upon which he (Mr. Walkup) had made a claim. Having returned to New York, in August following Mr. Button brought out his wife, landing, as before, at Kenosha, and making the remainder of the journey by wagons in company with his uncle, Gideon Button. They settled

in a log cabin, provided with the ordinary stick chimney and a large fireplace with a stone back. The space left by cutting out a section of a log answered the purpose of a window, and a wooden latch, lifted by a string passed to the outside of the door, served as a lock. The floor was of puncheons and the cabin had a shake roof. Here Mr. and Mrs. Button's first two children were born. During the next winter Mr. Button taught school in the first log school house erected in Dorr Township—a structure twenty feet square—near the Walkup farm. This house (which was in District No. 1) was a very primitive affair, although several winter schools had previously been taught there. It had the ordinary stick chimney and a fireplace of stone, but Mr. Button induced the directors to put up a cast-iron stove, and this was the first stove in a school house in Dorr Township. During the winter seventy pupils were enrolled, the average attendance being about sixty. Among his pupils were George K. Bunker, then fitting himself as a teacher, who attended a short time to "brush up a little," the Hartman family and Elisha Austin, now of Woodstock. Here Mr. Button taught two winters, and later in the new meeting house erected by the Presbyterians, alternating for several terms with Eleazer Smith. By industry and economy Mr. Button succeeded in improving his farm, built a frame house some six years after locating in McHenry County, and his present residence in 1859. In this he had the efficient aid of his wife, and has a fine farm property of about 380 acres, which is now divided into three dairy farms, giving homes to three tenant families. Their children were: Emma L., born June 23, 1845; David, born April 7, 1847, (died in infancy); Fannie Augusta, born Aug. 19, 1848; Edwin D., born March 3, 1851 (died in infancy); Charles Jason, born Nov. 2, 1852; Ida Eliza, born Nov. 17, 1856; Ruby Florence, born Oct. 9, 1864—all born in the "Virginia Settlement," except Ruby Florence, who is the wife of Prof. Spencer R. Smith, of Austin, Ill., and the only one now living. Mr. Button has been a member of the Presbyterian church over sixty years, having joined at Hunt's Hollow, N. Y., when he was seventeen years old and his wife at thirteen, he becoming an elder in this church when about twenty-one. Soon after their arrival in



*L. P. Barnes*







*Mrs. C. P. Barnes.*





RESIDENCE OF MR. C. P. BARNES, WOODSTOCK, ILL.





McHenry County they united with the church in the "Virginia Settlement," which is now the Presbyterian church of Ridgefield, Ill., and he has been an elder there since 1845. The church at Ridgefield was the first Presbyterian church in this part of the State. It was organized Feb. 6, 1839, and the first settled pastor was the Rev. James H. Baldwin, ordained and installed, Feb. 10, 1847. In politics Mr. Button was originally an old-time Whig, but became a Republican on the organization of that party and was a supporter of Fremont and Lincoln. His sterling traits of character are indicated by the high esteem in which he is held in the community in which he resides.

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#### CHARLES P. BARNES.

Charles P. Barnes, a son of McHenry County, is now a prominent attorney practicing at the McHenry County bar, and widely known throughout Northern Illinois for his success in his profession, especially in connection with criminal cases. Mr. Barnes was born at Nunda, McHenry County, Feb. 14, 1862, the son of Charles C. and Lydia (Sayles) Barnes. The family is of English descent, but for generations identified with New England history. Charles C. Barnes, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a soldier of the Civil War who was killed at the siege of Vicksburg in 1863, bravely fighting for the Union cause, leaving a wife and three small children in humble circumstances. Charles P. was but an infant when his father fell in his country's service, and was reared by his widowed mother in the face of many difficulties. He attended the district school in his boyhood and, at the early age of eleven years, found employment at such farm work as he was able to do, and from that time on provided for himself and assisted in the support of his widowed mother and his two sisters. This he continued for a number of years, in the meantime attending school at such times as he was able to do so. Among his teachers was the Rev. William Nickel, now a venerable man and one of the oldest teachers of McHenry County still living. In speaking of his former pupils, who have become successful in business or professional life, Rev. Nickel, alludes to "Charlie Barnes" as a "bright

little scholar." In 1880, when about eighteen years of age, young Barnes became a stationary engineer for the Clayson Drying Factory near Nunda, learning the business in ten days from a practical engineer from Chicago, when he took charge of a plant embracing several boilers and engines. He managed this business successfully for one year, not having a single accident during all that time.

From boyhood Mr. Barnes had taken a deep interest in the trial of legal cases before the Justices of the Peace in his village, and thus gained some knowledge of the order and manner of procedure in a Justice's court. Before reaching nineteen years of age, he had conducted five trials of cases before Justices of the Peace and had won four of them. He thus, at the same time, gained an insight into the methods of court procedure and a strong incentive to the study of law.

In March, 1891, at nineteen years of age, Mr. Barnes came to Woodstock and entered upon the study of law with Judge O. H. Gilmore. Without means and with no financial backing he worked for his board on a dairy farm near Woodstock for nearly two years, meanwhile prosecuting his law studies. He also found it necessary for a time, to supplement his legal studies with a more thorough training in academic branches, especially in language, thus carrying on two branches of study at the same time. By industry and perseverance he won success. After remaining in Judge Gilmore's office about a year, he spent a year with Judge B. N. Smith and, in March, 1893, after a two-years' course, at the early age of twenty-one years, was formally admitted to the bar. He immediately began practice in Woodstock and at the succeeding term of the McHenry County Circuit Court in May following, he had three cases, two of which he won. He soon established himself in a good practice and his progress has since been steadily forward. At that period most of the lawyers at the McHenry County bar were old experienced attorneys and of high legal attainments. In July, 1895, he formed a partnership with Hon. Merritt L. Joslyn, who was Assistant Secretary of the Interior during the administration of President Arthur and a lawyer of wide repute. This partnership was continued for more than two years under the firm name of "Joslyn &

Barnes," when it was dissolved. Later Mr. Barnes was associated successively with D. T. Smiley, of Woodstock, and J. E. Barber, of Marengo. On Jan. 1, 1903, he entered into partnership with John J. Cooney, a graduate from his office, under the firm name of Barnes & Cooney. Beginning while young and gaining his knowledge of the law largely in the school of experience, Mr. Barnes has absorbed the legal usages, methods of procedure and a sound knowledge of the great body of the law, not only by the hard study of law books, but through the counsel and advice of his preceptors and by his daily practice in the courts. He has thus gained the reputation of a wise counsellor and a skillful practitioner. The success he has achieved in his profession is attested by the numerous applications he has received for positions in his office from young men desiring to engage in the study of law. Attorneys D. T. Smiley, F. R. Jackman, F. B. Bennett and John J. Cooney, now successfully practicing their profession in Woodstock, studied with Mr. Barnes and passed successful examinations before the Appellate Court for admission to practice. Attorneys Robert G. Eckert, of Freeport, Arthur J. Mullen, of Chicago, Frank Spitzer of Fond du Lac, Wis., and W. S. McConnell of Woodstock, were also students in his office.

Mr. Barnes has been connected with a number of notable cases before the McHenry Circuit Court, of which the following are especially well remembered: In the famous Templeton murder case, he appeared for the defense and, on the third trial, secured an acquittal. In the Delhanty case he was attorney for the State, but lost. In the Gainor murder case he was on the side of the defense. In this memorable case, the defense did not dare to rely upon the jury, but was content to secure a brief sentence in the penitentiary for manslaughter. Eighteen months later Mr. Barnes, on a writ of habeas corpus, secured the release of the accused on the ground of a defect in the record, and, in a subsequent trial on the charge of murder, Gainor was acquitted. In a number of important civil cases, Mr. Barnes has been equally successful. In the famous Sullivan whisky case, in which Mr. Barnes appeared on the side of the defense, there were eleven defendants and three trials in the circuit

court. These cases were taken to the Appellate and the Supreme Courts, all the defendants except three being finally acquitted. In the case of Singer vs. the city of Harvard, Mr. Barnes was counsel for the plaintiff, for whom he recovered judgment in the circuit court for \$1,800. His other successful cases have been too numerous to mention.

In the fall of 1892 Mr. Barnes was instrumental in starting and organizing the McHenry County State Bank, of which he has ever since been First Vice-President and Attorney, as well as a member of the Board of Directors.

Politically Mr. Barnes acted with the Republican party previous to 1900, when he became a Democrat and took the stump for Samuel Alschuler and William Jennings Bryan. He made a number of able speeches and, although supporting a losing cause, proved himself a good campaigner. He has a reputation for legal skill and ability and has achieved a success in his profession to be envied by any attorney in Northern Illinois. Possessing the natural ability, industry and energy to work his way from a small beginning to a prominent position in life, Mr. Barnes has the desirable reputation of being unusually successful, even in those cases where the chances of winning are extremely doubtful. Persons having such cases before the courts are usually advised to "see Charley Barnes," as there seems to be an impression that any case he undertakes will be ably handled and won if within the bounds of reason. The real basis of every lawyer's reputation as a practitioner at the bar, is his own ability; and this fact furnishes the best evidence that Mr. Barnes is an unusually astute and sagacious legal counsellor and adviser.

Mr. Barnes is fond of fishing, hunting and boating, and has a fine summer home at Pistagua Bay, where he spends the summer months, being the owner of a launch and sailboat.

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#### ELIJAH A. BOWER.

Elijah A. Bower (deceased), who was an early resident of Chicago, later settling at Richmond, McHenry County, was born at Little Elm, Derbyshire, England, Jan. 20, 1827, the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Carlin) Bower. The Bower family had lived at Elkerson, ad-



*E A Bower*







*Elizabeth Bower,*



joining Little Elm, for generations. Peter Bower, the grandfather of Elijah A., was a farmer and stock-raiser, and lived on the place at Little Elm afterwards occupied by his descendants. His children were: Peter, Jr., Jarvis, Thomas, Elizabeth and one son whose name is not remembered. The family were members of the Church of England, and Peter Bower was proprietor of an estate valued at 55,000 pounds sterling.

Thomas, Bower, the son of Peter and father of Elijah A. Bower, was born at Elkerson, the old seat of the Bower family, and received an ordinary education for the period in which he lived. Having married Elizabeth Carlin, he settled on the farm called Little Elm, which his father gave him. The children of Thomas and Elizabeth (Carlin) Bower were: Caroline, (who married a Mr. Morley), John, Walter, William, Frank, Thomas, Elijah A. and Elizabeth. Mr. Bower passed the latter part of his life in this vicinity on a farm called Stanley, where he died in 1859. He was a member of the Church of England, a prosperous business man, and a member of the "Yeoman Cavalry"—an organization of mounted militia whose name has been much in use of late in connection with the war in South Africa.

Elijah A. Bower, whose name heads this sketch, received his education in a subscription school, to which he walked a distance of three miles, and was brought up to his father's business as a farmer and stock-dealer. When he was about twelve years of age, his father removed to the farm known as Stanley, where he remained until 1846, when at nineteen years of age he embarked on an old-fashioned merchant vessel at Liverpool for America. The vessel was bound for New Orleans and the voyage occupied nine weeks and three days. Arriving at New Orleans, he proceeded by steamer up the Mississippi to St. Louis and thence up the Illinois to Peru, where he took the stage for the remaining distance of 100 miles to Chicago. During this part of the trip he had to carry a rail a large part of the way to pry the stage out of the mud. He reached Chicago, March 29, 1846, and soon after found employment in driving a team. His first stopping place in Chicago was at the old "American House" at the corner of Canal and Randolph streets. During the first year he worked for

\$12 per month, but afterwards obtained employment at an increase of wages in a grain-store with Mr. Robert Morley, with whom he remained two years. During his last year with Mr. Morley he received \$30 per month. He engaged in buying grain and produce from the farmers on his own account, in which he did fairly well. His next venture was in renting a saloon on a lake steamer, which he ran two years, meanwhile being interested in other speculations. The steamer Lexington, on which he was employed, having been sunk in Lake Erie, off Conneaut, Ohio, he lost \$1,500 in consequence of the disaster. He then resumed the teaming business in Chicago on his own account.

On Feb. 5, 1850, Mr. Bower was married in the city of Chicago, to Elizabeth Reed, who was born in Leeds, England, Feb. 15, 1830, the daughter of James Reed. The father was a native of Leeds, England, who came to America, settling in McHenry County, in 1844, and dying there four years later. His children were: William, John, Mary, Sarah and Elizabeth. After his marriage, Mr. Bower engaged in the grocery business for a year, after which he spent two years as a manufacturer of confectionery. He then took charge of the old "Mansion House" on Kinzie Street, which he managed from 1852 to 1857, when, on November 5th of the latter year, he went to Richmond, McHenry County, and engaged in buying hides. His next step was to enter into the stock business, which he continued for twenty-five years. In 1860 he bought a farm of forty acres in Richmond Township, to which he added by purchase until he became the owner of 412 acres of fine farming land. Here he remained twenty years, and here his wife died, Aug. 27, 1885. She was a member of the Episcopal church and a woman of many virtues. The children by this marriage were: James Thomas and Delia A.—the latter becoming the wife of James Grier.

On Oct. 3, 1889, Mr. Bower married as his second wife, at Reinbeck, Iowa, Anna Broadley, who was born at White Pigeon, Mich., the daughter of Henry and Mary (Burnell) Broadley. Her father was a native of Yorkshire, England, and was a carpenter, contractor and farmer by occupation. Having emigrated to the United States, he settled at White Pigeon,



Mich., where he married Mary Burnell. Here he bought a farm and kept a hotel for a time, but finally moved to Spring Grove, McHenry County, Ill., where he bought 200 acres of land, later buying eighty-four acres in Lake County. This land he improved and became a prosperous farmer and substantial citizen. The children of the Broadley family were: Mary J., Ruth, Anna, William H. and John B. Mr. Broadley was a prominent member of the Methodist church, and in early days the meetings of that denomination were held in his house. He was a soldier of the Black Hawk War, and died in Waukegan, aged eighty-one years.

Mrs. Anna Bower received a good education in an academy at Genoa, Wis., and at the Richmond High School, and was a teacher in Burton Township, McHenry County, some three years. She is a member of the Methodist church. In 1895 Mr. and Mrs. Bower removed to Richmond, where he built an attractive residence, residing there until his death, Jan. 25, 1901. In his political views he was an earnest Democrat and served nine years as Road Commissioner of his township, in which he was regarded as one of the leading citizens and maintained a high reputation for usefulness and integrity of character.

JAMES THOMAS BOWER, son of Elijah A. and Elizabeth (Reed) Bower, was born in Chicago, Ill., Dec. 8, 1853, and, at three years of age, removed with his father to McHenry County, and received his education in the high school at Richmond, and also attended the State Normal School at Normal, Ill. In 1868 his father moved on to a farm in Richmond Township, and he was engaged in farm work until nineteen years of age, when he went to Fulton, Ill., and was employed in a hotel there two years. Then returning to his home in McHenry County, he was associated with his father for some years in the cattle trade, and was also engaged some six years in buying and selling poultry. September 3, 1879, he was married in Richmond to Mary E. Potter, who was a native of that place, born Oct. 28, 1851, the daughter of Edwin M. and Mary E. (Gibbs) Potter. The father, Edwin M. Potter, was born at Fort Ann, N. Y., the son of Stephen Potter (See sketch of Bodine McConnell). Edwin M. received a common-school education in his native

State, and, in 1853, came with his father to Richmond, McHenry County, where he was engaged in the mercantile business for many years. Here he married Mary E. Gibbs, born in Pike, Wyoming County, N. Y., the daughter of Heman Gibbs, who was an officer of the New York State militia. Col. Gibbs was an early settler in Richmond, where he located as early as 1845, and erected there the first hotel, which he managed for many years. In his later years he became quite wealthy, and continued to reside at Richmond until his death, which occurred at the age of sixty-eight years.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. James T. Bower settled in Richmond, where Mr. Bower served as Postmaster by appointment of President Cleveland from Sept. 11, 1885, until 1890, and was again appointed to the same position during Cleveland's second administration—serving in all eight and a half years. He was also engaged in the saddlery and harness trade some twelve years. He is now engaged in the insurance business and looks after his farming interests. He has held a number of town offices, was a member of the Board of Village Trustees, for five years being President of the Board; was Town Clerk for three years and school director twelve years. He is now Police Magistrate, having held the office two years. In political affiliation he is a Democrat, and fraternally a member of the Masonic Order, belonging to Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T., Woodstock, and also a member of the Modern Woodmen at Richmond. Besides valuable town property, he is the owner of 412 acres of land in Richmond Township and 220 acres in Alden Township; is also a stockholder and director in the McHenry County State Bank. Mr. and Mrs. Bower have one son, Earl E., born June 6, 1880, who is a graduate of the Richmond High School and attended the Morgan Park Preparatory School. He is now cashier of the McHenry County State Bank.

Of other members of the Bower family, two brothers of Elijah A.—Walter and William—went to South Africa, married there and left numerous descendants. Two other brothers, John and Frank, remained in England and reared families there. Still another brother, Thomas, came to America and settled at Lake, Lake County, Indiana.



J. S. Brown





Mary E. Bowser.





**GARDNER E. BURBANK.**

Gardner Elijah Burbank, a pioneer settler of McHenry County, now residing on his 150-acre farm within a mile of Woodstock, is descended from a good New Hampshire family. Henry Burbank, the first of whom we have definite record, was a life-long resident of New Hampshire, where he followed farming throughout his active life. He married Polly Johnson, daughter of Col. Charles Johnson, who, during the Revolution, raised a regiment which he quartered for some time upon his own estate. Henry and Polly (Johnson) Burbank, had nine children, all of whom were born in New Hampshire on the following dates, viz.: Charles J., Jan. 28, 1788; Abijah, July 18, 1790; Johnson, Jan. 29, 1793; Henry, Jan. 17, 1795, (died young); Michael, Jan. 17, 1799; Henry, Dec. 8, 1801; Elijah, May 17, 1805, and Mary, October, 1807.

Elijah Burbank, son of Henry, was reared on a New Hampshire farm, and educated in the public schools of his neighborhood, and in a fine old New England academy. During his early manhood he followed teaching for a number of years, filling positions at different times in New Hampshire, Vermont and New York. At Haverhill, Mass., Jan. 11, 1833, he married Sarah Hutchins, who was born in New Hampshire, Nov. 13, 1809, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Hutchins. Mrs. Burbank died April 14, 1886. Seven children were born of this union, viz.: Abigail, born Sept. 26, 1833, now deceased; Sarah E. (deceased), born April 28, 1835; Emily (deceased), born Jan. 30, 1839; Gardner, born Aug. 19, 1842; George A., born May 26, 1844, and is now deceased; Emily L. (deceased), born Feb. 17, 1849, and died at the age of twenty years; Mary Lewella, born July 22, 1851. After his marriage Mr. Burbank settled in New Hampshire for a time, where he and his wife engaged in hotel keeping, and where he also looked after a farm which he owned there. Later he moved to Cambridgeport, and worked in a pork-packing establishment for some time, and prior to 1844 he also resided for a time in Walden, Vt. Reports of the rapid settlement of Illinois and of fine farming land to be had there, induced him in 1843 to embark on a flat-boat and sail down the Ohio River to that State, where, in Perry County, he purchased a tract of prairie land, and began a home for

himself. After four years, deciding to try his luck further north, in company with several others, he moved by ox-team over the poor muddy roads of Illinois, reaching, in the course of four weeks, Dorr Township, McHenry County, June 8, 1847. Here, on an 80-acre claim—proved the preceding spring and purchased of William Ryder—he erected a comfortable log house, where he made his home for five years. In the course of time he had learned the trade of a stone-mason and plasterer, and now finding an excellent opening in that line in Woodstock, he disposed of his farm and moved there, taking up his residence first on Jackson Street, and later in the brick house now occupied by Daniel Tripp, which he erected, and where he passed his remaining days. A good workman he carried on an extensive business in his line for many years. He also continued to speculate in land, purchasing a 120-acre farm in Dorr Township, which he sold in 1863, realizing a good profit upon his investment. He lived to the advanced age of eighty years, dying in Woodstock, Feb. 2, 1885. Mr. Burbank possessed courage and determination, which sustained him through many a rough pioneering experience. To procure his McHenry County claim he did not hesitate to ride horseback to Chicago and back to hire the money for which he had to pay twenty-five per cent interest. Of a strong physique, not afraid of work, he was an important factor in the development of McHenry County. With his own hands he assisted in the erection of the first Presbyterian church in Woodstock, of which he and his wife were devout members, he acting as trustee for many years. Politically he was at first a Whig, and later a Republican, voting for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln.

Gardner E. Burbank, a worthy son of a hardy pioneer, was born in Walden, Vt., Aug. 19, 1842, and at the age of one and a half years was taken by his parents to Southern Illinois, and when five years old to McHenry County. He received his early schooling in hastily constructed buildings in Woodstock—one a small frame house, another an old granary—numbering among his teachers, Sarah Weld, of Elgin, Warren Waterman, Charles Fitch and Philinda Freeman. Later for three winters and one summer, he attended the old frame school house known as Todd Seminary, and still used

as a wing of the main structure of that institution, procuring, in spite of many drawbacks, a thorough education. Accustomed from his earliest years to farm work, upon reaching manhood he naturally turned to that occupation and, at the age of twenty-two, in company with his father, carried on the pursuit in Champaign County, Ill., where, in 1865, they purchased an 80-acre farm, which he worked for one year. Returning to Woodstock they bought the farm where he now resides.

In Alden Township, Jan. 17, 1872, Mr. Burbank married Mary Catherine McLaren, who was born in Alden Township, Aug. 20, 1853, daughter of James and Susannah (Quilhot) McLaren. Mrs. Burbank has always been a thrifty house-keeper, and has in her possession well-preserved table linen and towels, woven in Scotland, and brought to this country by her great-grandmother McIntyre. Mr. and Mrs. Burbank have five children, viz.: Anna Elizabeth, born April 20, 1875, is now attending the Waltham, Mass., Training School for nurses; John McLaren, born Nov. 6, 1877, is assistant buyer in the wholesale hardware house of Farwell, Ozman, Kirk & Co., St. Paul, Minn.; Harry Fay, born May 12, 1881, is now attending the agricultural department of the University of Illinois; James Frank, born April 6, 1884, is with his brother John in the wholesale house in St Paul; Helen Jeannette, born Dec. 13, 1889, is attending school in Woodstock.

Since 1868 Mr. Burbank has carried on his farm just outside of the town, where, in 1883, he erected a handsome two-story house, and the following year moved there with his family. Here he has since resided, engaged in general farming, dairying, and fruit growing. He has greatly improved the property, which now embraces 160 acres and is one of the finest farms in the county. Mr. Burbank has conquered many pioneer drawbacks in rising to his present prosperous position. He is fond of reminiscences, and tells how he and his father were the first to drive over the road running south of his present farm—then a muddy, corduroy highway, almost impassable; how his father, Mr. Baker, Mr. Gilbert and Thomas Lindsey hauled the old granary down to the Dodd farm—now the Lindsey place—and made it into a school-house, and how his father

and his wife went to housekeeping in a little, leaky, old log hut, while he was erecting a more commodious and comfortable log dwelling. He has long been active in public works, and in 1900 served very efficiently as United States Census Enumerator for Dorr Township. Politically Mr. Burbank affiliates with the Republicans. Mrs. Burbank is a member of the Presbyterian church. John McLaren Burbank, the oldest son of Gardner E. Burbank, was a soldier in the Spanish-American War and served in Porto Rico. He was promoted to be Sergeant.

The McLaren family, of which Mrs. Burbank is a member, is of Scotch extraction, and its genealogy in Perthshire is traced back 300 years. They belonged to the ancient clan of McLaren, their family tartan being of a dark green and dark blue threaded with gold. The oldest branch of the family of which any record has been preserved consisted of three brothers and three sisters, who lived in Perthshire, viz.: Alexander, Duncan, James, Christy, Peggie (or Margaret) and Magie. Alexander, the oldest son, married, reared a family and remained in the old home in Scotland. It is believed that all the other members of this family came to America before the American Revolution. Duncan married a lady of good family in Scotland and, after coming to America, settled at Johnstown, N. Y. His wife died in this country leaving no children, when he went to India, where many Scotch people were settling about that time. The daughter Christy became Mrs. Clark and also settled at Johnstown, N. Y. The name of only one of her children is remembered—viz.: James Clark, who removed to Galena, Ill., and not long since was still living at the patriarchal age of over 100 years. Another daughter, Margaret, married in Scotland and had two children, but having separated from her husband, came with her youngest child to America. The other daughter, Magie, never married, but came to America with her sister Margaret. Anabella, the child of Margaret, grew up to be a capable business woman, returned to Scotland and having found her older sister married, induced her to accompany her to America.

James McLaren, the first American representative of this family, was born in Perthshire, Scotland, and some time prior to the



*L. H. S. Barrow*





Revolution came to America and settled at Fort Edward, N. Y., and later at Johnstown. His death occurred by an accident at Albany, where he had gone to market some wheat. He married Mary McMartin, who, when about sixteen years old, came to America with her brother. After the death of Mr. McLaren, she married a Mr. Carmichael. She lived to the advanced age of ninety-six years, dying in the summer of 1854. Mr. and Mrs. McLaren had five sons: Daniel and Peter, who were born prior to the Revolution; John, born in 1783, and Duncan and Alexander, born after the Revolution.

John McLaren of this family, grandfather of Mrs. Burbank, was born in Johnstown, N. Y., Dec. 1, 1783, and married Nancy McIntyre, who was born in Perthshire, Scotland, May 18, 1790. The children of John and Nancy (McIntyre) McLaren were: James, born Dec. 27, 1808; Ann Matilda, born Feb. 2, 1811; James Alexander, born Jan. 21, 1813; John, born April 7, 1815.

James McLaren, father of Mrs. Burbank, was born in Johnstown, Fulton County, N. Y., Jan. 21, 1813, and received a limited education. As a young man he engaged in cloth weaving for some time but later settled in Ephratah, N. Y. Hoping to better his prospects further west, in 1844, he moved to Michigan, and afterward resided for some time at Otsego, and later at Kalamazoo. Coming to Illinois in 1846, he took up a 160-acre claim of prairie land in the southeastern part of Alden Township, which he improved and added to its area until it finally embraced 280 acres. Here he engaged in general farming and sheep raising, and became one of the prosperous farmers of the county. In Johnstown, N. Y., July 22, 1840, Mr. McLaren married Susannah Quilhot, who was born in Ephratah, N. Y., Feb. 27, 1814, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Yanney) Quilhot. Mr. and Mrs. McLaren had nine children: Elizabeth, born June 12, 1841; Joseph, Oct. 15, 1843, and is now deceased; John, Dec. 25, 1844; James, Sept. 26, 1846; Ann Mary, Dec. 27, 1848, and Catherine, Dec. 31, 1850 (all these except Elizabeth are now deceased); Mary C. (Mrs. Burbank); Martha, born Feb. 12, 1856, but now deceased; Jeannette, born Dec. 26, 1857, graduated from the medical department of Ann Arbor, and is now a practicing physician in St. Paul, Minn. Mr. McLaren was a man of many

sterling qualities, and a substantial member of the Linn and Hebron Presbyterian church, giving freely for its support. To this church his wife also belonged. In politics he was a staunch Republican.

Of the Quilhots, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Burbank was born in Bordeaux, France, became a surgeon and came to America during the French and Indian War, was taken prisoner by the British and released in New York City. Later he settled at Kinderhook, Columbia County, N. Y., where he practiced medicine for many years. He married in the Van Der Pool family. John Quilhot, grandfather of Mrs. Burbank, was born in the State of New York, and married Elizabeth Yanney. Of her family Christian Yanney was the first American representative. He came to New Jersey among the early colonists, selling his services to pay his passage, as was a custom in those days. He married Susannah Boshart, who was born in Milanberg, Canton Zurich, Switzerland.

#### LATHROP H. S. BARROWS.

Lathrop Huckens Storrs Barrows, early teacher of McHenry County, Union soldier and retired manufacturer, now of Woodstock, Ill., is descended from early New England and Puritan ancestry, the founder of the family in America being John Barrows, who left Yarmouth, England, for America in company with his wife Anne and a brother named Robert, the latter dying on the passage across the ocean on the ship Mary Ann. John Barrows and his wife settled in Massachusetts in 1637, and in 1665 removed to Salem, in Massachusetts Bay Colony. Their children were: Robert, Joshua, Benjamin and Ebenezer. Robert was married twice; first to Ruth Bowman, who left four sons—John, Eleazer, George and Samuel; and the second time, to Lydia Bowman, who died in 1707, leaving children named Elisha, Robert and Thomas. The son Robert of the second marriage was born in 1689, and married Bethea Ford. Later in life they located at Mansfield, Conn., where he died in 1779. Their children were: Jabez, Lemuel, Thomas, Daniel, and Elisha. The son Thomas of this family, born in 1716, was married three times. His first

wife was Mehitabel Porter, who left one daughter, Experience. The second wife, Abigail Crane, had six children: Thomas, Solomon, Experience, Philip, Eleazer and Lemuel. The third wife was Elizabeth Turner. Thomas, the oldest son by the second marriage, married Martha Hall, May 9, 1776, was a farmer and died at Lebanon, N. H., at the home of his son Storrs, March 14, 1844. He had children named Ruth, Abigail, Andrew, Samuel Storrs, Shepard, Silas, Martha, Thomas and Patty. Mrs. Thomas Barrows, the mother of this family, died Dec. 23, 1819. The record of the Barrows family during the Revolutionary period is very full. It is estimated that there were twenty-five to thirty men of the name in Connecticut at that time, most of them members of the Mansfield family, of whom at least twelve were soldiers of the Revolutionary War, several of them holding the office of Captain.

Shepard Barrows, of the last named family, was born Aug. 14, 1786, received a common-school education of that period and married in his native town Olive Storrs, who was born in that place. Shepard Barrows and wife moved soon after marriage to Columbus, Chenango County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm in that heavily timbered region, and became a substantial farmer, also conducting a dairy of about thirty-five cows. He passed the remainder of his life there among relatives, dying there Oct. 17, 1868. His children were Sarah S., born June 2, 1818; Gardner Thomas, born Dec. 29, 1820; Austin, born Feb. 20, 1823; Lathrop H. S., born Oct. 8, 1826; Avery Tracy, born in December, 1830; Porter Storrs, born April 1, 1832; Cornelia, born Jan. 3, 1835. Cornelia was a missionary and died at Smyrna, Turkey. In religion Mr. and Mrs. Shepard Barrows were Congregationalists and he was a deacon in his church and one of its liberal supporters. His son Austin is a deacon in the old church at Columbus, N. Y., of which his father was one of the founders.

Lathrop H. S. Barrows, the subject of this sketch, was born in Columbus, Chenango County, N. Y., Oct. 8, 1826, received a good primary education in the public schools and attended the Manlius Academy at Manlius, N. Y. He learned the carpenter and joiner's trade and, in the meantime, began teaching at New Berlin, N. Y., in the winter of 1846-7, when

about twenty years of age, also giving singing lessons at the same time in the popular manner of that period. In the following fall (1847) he came to McHenry County, Ill., traveling by railroad to Buffalo and thence by way of the lakes to Kenosha County, Wis., where he made the acquaintance of Alvin H. Parker, with whom he rode to McHenry County, arriving there Oct. 15, 1847. After his arrival he worked at his trade for a time, and, in the following winter, taught school in the Tryon School House in Hebron Township. Among his pupils in this school were the six children of Deacon Jacob Gilbert—Cornelia, Thomas, Ann Eliza, Henry, William and Platt; the children of Alvin H. Parker—James F., Clara E., Emily S., Louville M. and Ellen L.; Harriet, Sidney, Frances C. and George Clark; Charles H. and George Tryon, Edward Douglass and Wellington Towne. The Gilbert family removed to California in 1853, making the journey across the plains in company with William Raymond and wife and their adopted son, Joseph Irving, now engaged in editorial work in Chicago. The text-books used in those days included Sanders' Readers, Daboll's and Adams' Arithmetics, Kirkham's Grammar and Comstock's Natural Philosophy. Mr. Barrows also had classes in algebra, geometry and astronomy, some of his pupils being twenty-two to twenty-three years old. Webster's Elementary Speller was the standard for the primary classes, and spelling-matches were popular entertainments in which the more advanced pupils took part. The superiority of the old system of teaching orthography over that of the present day was strikingly illustrated in the greater accuracy in this branch of education among the pupils of our common schools in that day, as compared with some of the college and university-bred students of this latter period. After his experience in the Hebron district, Mr. Barrows taught three winters in Greenwood and one, each, in the Queen Ann Prairie and the Stewart districts, proving his capability as a teacher, while working at his trade during the summer.

Mr. Barrows was married Aug. 2, 1852, at the home of the bride's parents in Hebron Township, to Emily Saran Parker, who was born in Bristol, N. Y., Jan. 9, 1833, the daughter of Alvin H. and Mary (Hosford) Parker. (See



*Mrs Emily S. Barrows*





sketch Alvin H. Parker.) In 1853 Mr. and Mrs. Barrows settled in Greenwood Township and, in the fall of 1858, they moved to Woodstock, where Mr. Barrows bought a half-interest with Willard Salisbury in a sash and door factory. A year later he bought out his partner, continuing the business until 1860, when he sold out to other parties.

April 27, 1861, Mr. Barrows enlisted for service in the Civil War as a private soldier of the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry—the first Illinois regiment to be mustered in for the three years' service—the muster-in taking place May 24, 1861. During his first winter in the service, he was detailed for duty as a nurse in the hospital at Raleigh, Mo., and, after the battle of Shiloh in April, 1862, in which he took part, was detailed for similar duty on the Hospital Steamer, City of Memphis, which carried 1,000 wounded soldiers to Mound City, Ill., where he continued on hospital duty one month. Later, he rejoined his regiment at Corinth, Miss., after which he was honorably discharged on account of disability incurred in the service. He was neither wounded nor a prisoner during his connection with the army, but contracted malaria which disqualified him for active duty in the field.

Returning to Woodstock, Mr. Barrows purchased the sash, door and blind factory there in which he had been previously interested, and continued in this business for the next ten years. In 1875 he purchased the foundry at Woodstock, which he managed for some years, but, in 1883, on account of failing health, he went to Kingsbury County, S. D., where, having purchased a half-section of land, he engaged in farming. Here he occupied himself improving his land, returning to Woodstock each winter except one winter (1886) when he remained in Dakota for the purpose of teaching school. Having finally sold his farm in Kingsbury County, he bought other lands in Beadle and Hand Counties, but later, returning to Woodstock, engaged in the manufacture of artificial limbs. For the past six years he has been retired from active business.

Mr. Barrows joined the Congregational church at Columbus Center, N. Y., when about twenty-one years of age, but finding no church of this denomination near his new home on coming to McHenry County, united with the Presbyterian church at Greenwood, and be-

came Superintendent of the Sabbath School. After removing to Woodstock, he became a member of the Methodist church in which he held the offices of steward, class-leader and Sabbath School Superintendent. In 1865 he became one of the founders of the Congregational church at Woodstock, and was largely instrumental in erecting the church edifice there for which he was contractor; has also served continuously as deacon of his church since its organization and was made deacon for life in 1900. His brother, Gardner T., was a deacon of the same church for many years up to his death in 1884. Lathrop H. S. Barrows has long been the teacher of a Bible class in the Sunday-school of which he was the Superintendent, and also fills the office of church trustee.

Mr. Barrows is a member of Woodstock Post, No. 108, Grand Army of the Republic, in which he holds the office of Chaplain. In political opinions he was originally an old-line Whig, but later became a Free-Soiler (or Abolitionist) and finally a Republican; but since President McKinley's first administration, he has co-operated with the Prohibition party. He has been School Trustee of Dorr Township for a number of years.

Mr. and Mrs. Barrows are the parents of six children—the first three born at Greenwood, and the last three at Woodstock—viz.: Mary Olive, born June 30, 1853; Cornelia Alice, born Feb. 23, 1856; Charles Storrs, born April 27, 1858; Joseph Eugene, born Nov. 15, 1860; Etta Rose Adelle, born Aug. 18, 1863, and Sarah Elizabeth, born Feb. 9, 1868.

Mary Olive married Capt. Frank Landers, now a banker of Webster City, Iowa, June 3, 1874, and they have four children born as follows: Leonora, Sept. 13, 1875; Lou Cornelia, July 26, 1877; John Clement, Jan. 6, 1879, and Frank Lathrop, May 10, 1888.

Cornelia Alice married Albert Smith, a farmer of Dakota, March 14, 1875, and she died June 4, 1886, leaving five children with dates of birth as follows: Lathrop Herbert, Nov. 28, 1876; Myrtle Adelle, Oct. 14, 1878, died Nov. 28, 1900; Charles Gardner, Jan. 29, 1881; Grace Etta, Feb. 22, 1883; Clifford, March 28, 1885.

Charles Storrs (deceased) was a manufacturer in Rochester, N. Y., married March 15, 1888, Eveiy Snow, and they had eight children whose names and dates of birth were:

Charles Storrs, Jan. 10, 1889; Ralph Gillett, Aug. 1, 1890; Emily Ruth, May 8, 1892; Cornelia Adelle, March 22, 1895; Helen Parker, Nov. 18, 1896, died November, 1897; Alice Evelyn, Sept. 26, 1898; Richard Harlan, May 19, 1900; Katharine Spier, Nov. 16, 1901. Charles S. was educated in the High School at Woodstock and at the State University at Champaign, having as class-mates the present Gov. Richard Yates and Prof. Loreda Taft, the distinguished sculptor, now of Chicago Art Institute. He became a designer and student of mechanical engineering, and spent some time traveling in Europe, after which he was, for some years, in the employ of the Standard Oil Company. In 1893 he purchased an interest in the Snow wire-works at Rochester, N. Y., and, two years later, bought out the entire plant, by means of his inventions adding largely to its business and improving the quality of its output. He was an artist in his ideals, and his works became the largest in the country, producing every species of metal office-fixtures and wire-work appliances, but his career was cut short by his death, April 28, 1901. The Rochester Chamber of Commerce, of which he was an honored member, adopted the following tribute to his memory:

"In the death of Charles Storrs Barrows, the Chamber of Commerce loses an influential and enthusiastic member, and Rochester a citizen of the highest type. He was a kindly man in all his relations with others, a faithful friend, clean, straightforward and honorable in all his dealings."

Of the other children of Deacon Barrows and wife, Joseph Eugene died in infancy, Etta Rose Adelle married Dr. Charles M. Fosdick, now of Chicago, and Sarah Elizabeth died Sept. 11, 1886, at the age of about eighteen years.

Deacon Barrows, the principal subject of this sketch, is one of the most widely-known and highly respected of the early settlers of McHenry County, of whom so few are still living. Of strict integrity in his personal character, his influence and example have always been on the side of justice and right. Always a friend of sound morality, temperance and a pure Christianity, he has devoted his life largely to these causes. Tender and sympathetic in character, with the experience acquired as a nurse during his connection with the army, he has

long been depended upon by his neighbors for miles around in cases of sickness, and it is in the part of the "Good Samaritan" that his character stands out in bright relief. The man who aids his neighbor makes a true success in life, and the friends of Deacon Barrows justly claim for him this high honor.

#### MRS. MARGARET BAGLEY.

This interesting and highly intelligent pioneer lady was born at Pultney, N. Y., daughter of Samuel and Mary (McNally) Waddell. Her father, Samuel Waddell, was born in Pennsylvania, on the banks of the Susquehanna River, either in Northumberland or in Cumberland County. He was of thrifty Scotch-Irish descent and the son of William and Margaret (McAffee) Waddell.

James McAfee was born in County Antrim, Ireland, came to America when young and married and settled in Pennsylvania, near Milton, Cumberland County, where he was one of the early Sheriffs, and, in colonial times, made his official trips throughout that region on horseback. He served in a conflict against the Indians, and his daughter Margaret, the grandmother of Mrs. Bagley, remembered escaping from the Indians on several occasions.

William Waddell was born in the North of Ireland and came to America with his brother Samuel. Samuel settled in the South, probably in North Carolina, and was never afterward heard from directly, but a family residing in North Carolina claimed their descent from him. Mr. Waddell settled on the Susquehanna and, after the birth of his first three children, moved to Seneca County, N. Y., where he bought a farm partly cleared of the timber, and, at that time, known as surveyor's land. Here he passed his remaining days and died about 1812, being then in middle life. His children were: Jane, Samuel, James, William, Martha, Mary, Fannie, Nancy, Isaac and Margaret. William Waddell was a Scotch Presbyterian in religious belief and a man of excellent character.

Samuel Waddell received a common-school education, read extensively of general literature and possessed an active mind well stored with general information. He took a deep interest in natural history, and, as a student of



nature, became a naturalist of no small ability and imparted to his children valuable instruction in this particular branch of science. Mr. Waddell was a soldier in the War of 1812, and when eighteen years old served eighteen months with Col. Swick's riflemen. He was stationed at Fort Erie and Detroit, and was one of a party of volunteers in the attack on Fort Walden, Canada, where the Canadians were defeated and driven from the fort. Mr. Waddell was sick at Fort Erie for three months and his mother received no other news from him, except that he was sick. She was then a widow lady about forty years of age, with nine children, some of whom were very small. She determined to visit her son, but the journey would seem impossible when we consider that it was through a wilderness without roads or bridges with only narrow Indian trails, and tracks made by wild animals, as a guide. The only means of conveyance was on horseback, and the long journey of several hundred miles would take her through a country then infested with bands of hostile Indians and marauders. While most of the hostile Indians had been driven back, there were yet a great many small straggling bands, and besides these, many desperadoes scattered throughout the country. Nothing daunted, this brave woman mounted her horse with the determination of seeing her sick son. Having but passed through one of her own fields, at the very beginning of her journey, she heard some one call, and her son, who had partially recovered from his recent illness, had returned home on foot just in time to relieve his loving and heroic mother of the hardships and dangers of her perilous journey and fill her heart with gladness. Samuel Waddell, when twenty-five years of age, married at Ovid, N. Y., Mary McNally, who was born in Philadelphia, daughter of John and Isabel (Duncan) McNally.

Isabel Duncan was born in Scotland, the daughter of William and Mary (Wilson) Duncan, a sister of the eminent Ornithologist, Alexander Wilson, and owing to objections made by her father to her intended marriage, she came to America in charge of Dr. Gallagher, who became an eminent Philadelphia physician. John McNally was born in the North of Ireland, served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and died of sickness at Fort Erie. His children were Mary, William, James, Catherine and Isabel.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Waddell settled on a farm at Crooked Lake, Steuben County, N. Y., and after a residence there of ten years, moved to Michigan and settled on an eighty-acre farm in Livingston County. Mr. Waddell made excellent progress toward improving his farm, but sixteen months later he died of malarial fever, at forty years of age. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, and in politics a member of the Whig party. He was a man of excellent moral character, very careful and clear in speech. His children were Matilda, Anna, Margaret, Mary, Andrew, William and Isabelia. Mrs. Waddell lived to be nearly ninety-four years of age and died in Steuben County, N. Y.

Mrs. Margaret (Waddell) Bagley, was about ten years old when she came with her mother and family to Michigan. The journey was made by canal and lake to Detroit, and thence by wagons to Livingston County. Mr. Waddell had removed to Michigan a few weeks in advance of his family and had built a log house for them to occupy when they arrived. The following year, after Mr. Waddell's death, the family returned to New York State, and Margaret lived with her grandmother Waddell until she married Mr. Bagley. She had received a good common-school education and inherited a love of literature, having been from youth accustomed to good books, and her father's instruction in zoology, ornithology and botany proved of great value to her. She well remembers the friendly Pottawatomie Indians who often visited her father's house, when the family first moved to Michigan, for the purpose of trading their trinkets for food. Mr. Bagley's farm was on the Indian trail to Detroit, where the Indians went for ammunition and supplies, and to receive their annuities from the Government. The Indians who visited their house were very courteous, the excellent conduct and good manners of the Indian children being especially noticeable and worthy of mention.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bagley settled on a farm in Chemung County, N. Y., remaining one year and then (1851) came to Illinois and settled at Marengo, where he engaged in business, buying grain and produce. The family lived at Marengo fourteen years and then removed to Walworth County, Wis., where Mr. Bagley purchased a farm, but one year later they returned to Marengo and shortly after-



wards removed to Rockford, where Mr. Bagley engaged in the nursery business. Eighteen months later (1874) Mr. Bagley and his family moved to Harvard, where he engaged in the lumber business, afterwards transferring his business to Woodstock. Mr. Bagley was a highly respected citizen and a very successful man in business transactions. Politically he was a Republican and held the office of Town Clerk in Marengo, and was also President of the Town Board. He was a member of the Baptist church and was a deacon in the church at Marengo. Mrs. Bagley is a member of the Presbyterian church. Their children in order of birth were as follows: Lue, Anna, John Winslow, Elmer E., Mary and Ethel. Those still living are Anna (Mrs. Robert Hall), Elmer E., Mary (Mrs. C. W. Nims), and Ethel (Mrs. Stuart Saunders).

Mrs. Bagley is a lady of wonderful memory and has a rich store of knowledge and reminiscence from which to draw upon. The history of her life is a history of thousands of others of those remarkable pioneer women, who have had and still have such an influence over the affairs of the great Middle West.

#### ELMER ELLSWORTH BAGLEY.

Elmer E. Bagley, one of the prominent business men of Woodstock, was born at Marengo, Ill., June 2, 1861, son of John Heman and Margaret (Waddell) Bagley. John Bagley, the grandfather, was a farmer residing near Elmira, N. Y., and descended from a family of Puritan settlers of New England. In his old age he came to Marengo, Ill., to visit his son, John Heman, and here died an aged man. John Heman Bagley, the father of Elmer E., was born in Elmira, N. Y., July 27, 1824. He received a limited common-school education, became a lumberman, and when a young man, was superintendent of a lumber-mill at Corning, N. Y. He married at Paulding, Steuben County, N. Y., Margaret Waddell, who was born in Steuben County, N. Y., Oct. 25, 1826, daughter of Samuel and Mary (McNally) Waddell. After marriage, in 1852, Mr. Bagley came to Illinois and bought land near Aurora, and in 1853, settled in Marengo, where he engaged in the grain and lumber business. In 1866 he bought a farm of 200 acres at Lake Geneva, Walworth County, Wis. In 1874 he

engaged in the lumber business at Harvard, Ill., and two years later opened a lumber yard in Woodstock, continuing in this business until 1883, when he retired from active business and resided at Harvard until 1894, the time of his death, being then sixty-nine years of age. In political opinion he was an old-line Whig and later became a Republican. He was an honored citizen of McHenry County and served as President of the Village Board at Marengo. He was never an office seeker, but took a deep interest in national politics, and read extensively of standard historical works and the press of his day, and in this manner became a well-informed man. His children were Lue, who died in 1895, the wife of Joseph Swinney, of Walworth, Wis.; Anna, wife of Robert Hall, of Harvard, Ill.; John H., Jr., who died when twenty-eight years of age; Winifred, who died aged six years; Elmer Ellsworth; Mary, wife of C. W. Nims, of Chicago, and Ethel Magaret, wife of Stuart Saunders, of Harvard, Ill. Mr. Bagley was a practical business man of much integrity of character, a member of the Baptist church, and gave to all of his children the advantages of a good education.

Elmer E. Bagley, the principal subject of this article, was born at Marengo, Ill., June 2, 1861, and educated in the public schools of Marengo and the High School at Harvard. He came to Woodstock in 1881, and engaged in the lumber and feed business with his father, remaining in company with his father until the fall of 1883, when he and his brother John succeeded to the firm of J. H. Bagley & Son. In 1884 Elmer E. bought out his brother's interest, and in 1886 sold the lumber business to W. D. Hall, afterwards gradually entering the wholesale feed and grain business, in which he has been prosperous and is still engaged. In 1893 Mr. Bagley disposed of the retail department of his business, and gradually extended his wholesale grain business throughout Northern Illinois, and Southern and Central Wisconsin, being today one of the representative business men of this section of country, having attained a marked degree of prosperity and success. Politically he is a Republican and has served as City Treasurer of Woodstock one term, a member of the Board of Education four years, President of the Board of Education in 1900, a member of the Board of Aldermen of Woodstock one term,

and at the present time, is one of the members of the Public Library Board. Fraternally Mr. Bagley is a member of the I. O. O. F., of Woodstock, and has passed all the chairs and held the office of Noble Grand. In Woodstock, Ill., Sept. 11, 1884, he was married to Augusta Furer, born in Woodstock, Jan. 31, 1862, daughter of Edward E. and Sophia (Reimann) Furer. Their children were: John H., born Sept. 11, 1888, died at the age of four months; Elmer E., born March 25, 1900. In 1896 Mr. and Mrs. Bagley adopted a little daughter, Doris Emma Mapes, born May 5, 1892, whom they are raising as a member of their family. Mr. Bagley is a public-spirited business man of the broad-minded and educated type.

#### HENRY T. BROWN, M. D.

For more than half a century, Dr. Brown has been one of the successful practitioners of McHenry County, surpassing, in point of time, that of any other physician in the county. His family is of English origin, and was among the early settlers of Massachusetts. Both his grandfather and his father were born in the town of North Adams in that State, the former being a farmer and the latter a manufacturer of woolens. Benjamin B. Brown, father of the subject of this sketch, received for the times, a good English education, and, while yet a young man, removed from Massachusetts to New York, where he married Ann L. Way, the daughter of Joshua Way, a farmer and mill owner of Yates County, and a man of not a little local influence. For several years Benjamin B. Brown manufactured cloth at Penn Yan, Yates County, N. Y., and afterwards bought a farm near that place. He first came to McHenry County in the spring of 1837, rather on a tour of prospection than with a well-defined purpose of settlement, leaving his wife and six children (among them being Henry T.) at home. There he found his brother-in-law, William L. Way, who had already found a home there, while among the other pioneer residents of the new country were Dr. Cristy G. Wheeler and family and Henry McLean, the last named having gone to Vandalia, Ill., to bring home a bride.

Not long after his arrival, Benjamin B. Brown built his famed "log-cabin tavern," which was destined to become one of the his-

toric hostelries of the State. Mrs. Brown joined him in 1838, leaving their children temporarily in the care of the lessee of their farm, and they followed their parent in the autumn of 1839. The tavern conducted by Mr. Brown was regarded, in its day, as a paragon among early hostelries. It stood upon the site of the present Riverside Hotel in McHenry, and was a double log house with an "L" attached, part of the structure being two stories in height. The two houses were later connected by a frame structure, and a part of it is still standing, beyond doubt the oldest building in the county. It was rambling in plan, and its appointments were of that primitive sort to be expected in those times, yet it was immensely popular in its day. Game was abundant, and the bountifully spread table was laden with venison and wild fowl. The first school in the county was taught in one of its north rooms, and in its upper story was the first court room. Around its capacious old-time fireplace, with its huge logs and its mud-daubed chimney of sticks, were wont to gather not only the pioneers and land-seekers, but judges, lawyers and jurors in attendance upon the court, and the tall form of "Long John" Wentworth was a familiar figure at every term of court. Political discussion alternated with reminiscent stories, while wit and repartee, jokes and banter, jollity and good fellowship were always abundant. It was beneath its roof that Mrs. Brown, the mother of Dr. Henry T., passed away about 1842, and in time her widowed husband disposed of the celebrated tavern to lead a more quiet life in the village of McHenry.

He was a man of no little prominence, popular, respected and influential; originally a Democrat of the most pronounced Jacksonian type, he was in 1860 a supporter of Stephen A. Douglas for the Presidency. He was one of the earliest County Commissioners, and for many years held the office of Justice of the Peace. He was one of the founders of the first Masonic Lodge in McHenry County, and a Knight Templar. In his old age he removed to Missouri to pass his declining years with a son-in-law, Oscar Griswold, at whose home he passed away in 1866. He was the father of six children; Reliance, Susan, Mary, Henry T., Homer and William W.

Dr. Henry T. Brown, the venerable and ven-



erated physician whose long and honored career forms the subject of this sketch, was born in Manchester, N. Y., Nov. 1, 1823. His early education was as good as was afforded by the country schools of his home and time, and while yet a boy he began life's battle as a clerk in a general store in Penn Yan. He came with his brothers and sisters to McHenry in 1839, reaching his destination on his sixteenth birthday. The journey was a novel experience for the young travelers. They went by canal and lake to Chicago, but from that point they were uncertain how to proceed. They learned of the existence of a place called Elgin on the Fox River, and as Henry happened to know that McHenry was situated north of Elgin, they hired a team and driver to transport them thither and thence to their ultimate destination, which they reached in safety. His father at that time owned a ferry across the Fox River, and young Henry was given the post of ferryman, his duties consisting in paddling a flat-bottomed scow from one bank to the other.

He had, however, a latent and unslaked thirst for knowledge and, as soon as circumstances permitted, he entered Slater's Academy at Ringwood, where he remained as a pupil for six years. For a time he was a clerk for John W. Smith, the purchaser of the "Log-cabin Tavern" from his father, Benjamin B. Brown: yet his natural talent was toward the study of medicine, and in 1844 he began a course of reading with Dr. James McAllister, then a well-known practitioner of Ringwood, and, after three years so spent, matriculated at Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which institution he graduated in 1850.

The California gold fever was then epidemic, and in that year the Doctor made one of a party to cross the plains in quest of the precious metal. He was accompanied by Archelaus Sias (one of McHenry County's earliest pedagogues), Augustus Turner, Horace Dwelley and Dr. Theophilus Fravel. Besides an abundant supply of provisions, clothing, bedding, cooking utensils, etc., the equipment of the party consisted of two large wagons and one lighter vehicle, each drawn by two horses, an additional equine being taken along for a case of emergency. They were ferried across the Mississippi at Albany, and across the Missouri at the point where Plattsmouth now

stands, but where at that time there was no settlement. Thence their route followed the old Mormon trail, along the southern bank of the Platte. Indians were numerous, but the party reached in safety the district of Placerville, then known by the suggestive, if not euphonious, name of "Hangtown." Here Dr. Brown alternately mined and practiced medicine, receiving from ten to eighteen dollars for an ordinary professional visit, from twenty to twenty-five dollars for a trip requiring more time, and from one hundred to three hundred dollars for an ordinary surgical operation. Wearying of the life in two years, however, he turned his face homeward, crossing the Isthmus by mules, proceeding from Aspinwall to New Orleans by steamer, by steamboat to St. Louis and thence by stage to McHenry. For five years he practiced there but in 1857 again crossed the plains overland, going as far west as Pike's Peak, and once more following the dual occupation of goldseeker and physician. In 1858 he once more returned home, overland. Buffalo were abundant in those days and the doctor's party consumed three days in passing through one herd, which spread out as far as the eye could reach. The sight was wondrous, but the teams were driven very slowly and with the utmost caution to avoid the danger of starting a stampede, which would probably have proved fatal to the band of homeward bound adventurers. Since his return to McHenry in 1858, the doctor has remained there, quickly building up an extensive and lucrative practice, reaching over a large territory. His recognized skill as a physician has commended him to the unwavering confidence, not only of his patients but of the entire community in which his useful life has been passed.

He was married on June 1, 1852, at McHenry, to Almira M. Smith, who was born April 30, 1831, in Johnson, Vt., a daughter of Abijah and Thankful (Griswold) Smith. Both Dr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the Universalist church, and have been liberal contributors towards its support and growth. Politically Dr. Brown is a Republican.

Two children have blessed this union: Adell and Paul. The daughter is the wife of Mr. Clarence A. Knight, a distinguished member of the Chicago Bar, while Mr. Paul Brown is also a well-known member of the Chicago bar.

**GORDON LUCIUS BECKLEY.**

Gordon Lucius Beckley was born in Utica, Chenango County, N. Y., May 29, 1838, son of Gordon Lewis and Phoebe (Barnes) Beckley. When an infant about two months old he was brought to Illinois by his parents and raised among the pioneers of McHenry County. He attended school in a log building, the first school house in the Beckley district, and when the present one was erected, the log house was sold and put to other uses. It was about twenty feet square, built of round logs notched at the corners, an oak shingle roof, board floor, small glass windows, a stick chimney, daubed with mud, and a large fire-place. The first teacher whom Mr. Beckley remembers, was Amanda McOmber, and later one of his instructors was a Mr. Randle. Mr. Beckley attended school in this primitive structure for several years, and later in a one-story brick schoolhouse in the same district, one-half mile farther east and in which a school is still taught. When nineteen years of age, he attended the graded school at Ringwood for one year, his teacher being William Nichols, who afterwards held the office of County Superintendent of Schools of McHenry County. During Mr. Beckley's attendance at school, he worked on the farm through the intervening summer season. At the age of twenty-two years, he enlisted as a private in Company I, Fifty-second Illinois Infantry, and was mustered into the service Sept. 11, 1861, at Geneva, Ill., and served three years under the following company officers: J. T. Brown, Thomas Thompson, S. D. Davis and A. W. Wilborn. He was honorably discharged in January, 1863, at Pulaski, Tenn., but re-enlisted as a veteran in the same organization and served until the close of the war, being mustered out at Louisville, Ky., in July, 1865. Mr. Beckley participated in the following battles: Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Siege of Corinth, Iuka, Corinth, Hatchie, Town Creek, Bear Creek, Resaca, Lay's Ferry, Rome Cross Roads, Dallas, Calhoun Cross Roads, Mill's Creek, Kenesaw Mountain, Decatur, Atlanta, Lovejoy Station, Jonesboro, Altoona, Bentonville, and battles in Sherman's famous march to the sea, and took part in the grand review at Washington. He was in twenty-two hard fought battles and many skirmishes. During the famous Atlanta campaign the Union troops were under fire nearly

four months, day and night, and in Sherman's memorable march to the sea, there was a great deal of skirmish fighting and foraging, and on the return march to Washington, the Union soldiers made one of the longest and quickest marches in history. In January, 1863, Mr. Beckley was promoted for gallant and meritorious conduct, and when re-enlisted as a veteran, promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant in Company I, and served in this capacity until mustered out of service. Although in so many battles, Mr. Beckley was never wounded. He took part in all of the battles and skirmishes of his regiment, and was in all their campaigns and marches, except the one from Pittsburg Landing to Corinth, being at that time in the hospital sick with pneumonia and typhoid fever. He was taken sick at Pittsburg Landing and was in the field hospital two weeks, when he was removed to the hospital in St. Louis and, after one month's treatment, allowed to go home on a sick furlough for thirty days. Mr. Beckley describes the battle of Corinth as the hardest fought of any of the engagements in which he took part. His regiment lost heavily, and in the battle of Corinth, a ball passed between the visor of his cap and his forehead. In July, 1865, he returned to McHenry County and resumed his former occupation, that of a farmer. July 4, 1866, he married Emily Erwin Wilson, born in Johnson, Lamoille County, Vt., Feb. 11, 1836, daughter of Robert and Margaret (Erwin) Wilson.

Robert Wilson was of English descent, born in New Hampshire and the son of Robert Wilson. He was a carpenter by trade, and moved to Michigan, but afterwards returned to Vermont, where he died in 1838. The family moved to McHenry County in 1855.

After marriage, Mr. Beckley purchased the Beckley homestead, where he and Mrs. Beckley lived until 1892, when they moved to Nunda and bought an attractive residence. In politics Mr. Beckley is a Republican. He is a member of the G. A. R., Post Number 226, at Nunda, in which he has been Commander one term, and Quartermaster eight years, the latter officer being Treasurer of the Order. During his services in the Civil War, he won a remarkable battle record. He was one of those soldiers who bore the brunt of the fight, and it is to such men as he that this country owes



a debt of gratitude for the preservation of the Union.

#### JONATHAN S. BROWN.

One of the substantial business men of Ringwood, McHenry County, is Jonathan S. Brown, the son of Samuel W. and Sophia (Cogswell) Brown. The father, who was a pioneer of Hebron Township, McHenry County, was born at Raymond, N. H., April 22, 1811, the son of Levi S. and Betsy (Worthen) Brown. Levi S. was of English and New England Puritan ancestry, his father, Levi Brown, being a soldier of the Revolutionary War, who participated in the battles of Bennington and Bunker Hill. The powder-horn which he carried in these famous engagements is still preserved as a precious heirloom by the family and, at the present time, is in possession of the subject of this sketch.

The elder Levi Brown, who was the great-grandfather of Jonathan S., was a pioneer settler at Raymond, N. H., and lived to the extraordinary age of one hundred years. His son, Levi S., was a farmer at Raymond, and married Betsy Worthen. Their children were: Samuel W. and Levi—both now deceased. Levi S., the father, owned a good farm at Raymond, and was a member of the Presbyterian church. He died in the town of Raymond. Samuel W., the son of Levi S., received a good common-school education for his day, studied mathematics and became a practical surveyor. He was reared as a farmer, but in his youth learned the business of a machinist, beginning at Lowell, Mass., when fourteen years old. Here he was engaged for several years in the construction of railway engines, building the first engine for the Boston & Lowell Railroad Company. He was married at Dover, N. H., Aug. 24, 1842, to Sophia C. Cogswell, who was born at Boscawen, N. H., June 9, 1822, the daughter of Francis and Elizabeth (Smith) Cogswell. Her father was a native of Dover, N. H., and was the son of Col. Amos and Mary (Bell) Cogswell—the former of English Puritan stock and an officer of the Revolutionary War, who received the surrender of an English vessel. He was a prominent citizen of Dover and died at the age of ninety years. His sword was brought West by his daughter, Mrs. Brown, and is yet in possession of the family. His children

were: Francis; Lydia, who married Paul Wentworth, and they were the parents of John Wentworth, who was prominent in Chicago history between 1836 and 1888; Sophia, who married a Mr. Currier, and two others whose names are not remembered.

Francis Cogswell received a collegiate education, graduating at Portsmouth, N. H., studied law and finally settled at Boscawen, N. H., where he engaged in practice and also owned a farm. His children were: Amos, George, Lydia, Annette and Joseph. He was a substantial and respected citizen and, in his old age, in company with his wife, visited Owatonna, Minn., where their children had settled, and where he died at the patriarchal age of ninety-six years. His wife died aged eighty-two years. They were both members of the Congregational church, and he served as a soldier in the War of 1812.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Brown settled in Raymond, N. H., where he owned a half interest in a saw, shingle and grist-mill, the remaining interest belonging to his uncles. His family then consisted of his wife and three children: Jonathan S., Francis and Jane, all born in New Hampshire. They came to Illinois in 1849, arriving in Hebron Township, May 3d of that year, making the journey by way of the lakes to Waukegan, and thence by teams to their destination. Here he bought 160 acres of partly improved land upon which he made further improvements, by additions increasing his holding to over 200 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were members of the Methodist church and in politics he was originally a Jacksonian Democrat, becoming a Republican of the Lincoln school on the organization of that party. In 1850 he was appointed Postmaster at Hebron, serving eleven years; was Supervisor for Hebron Township ten years, served as Deputy Surveyor of McHenry County, and for more than a quarter of a century held the office of Justice of the Peace, besides being a member of the School Board and discharging the duties of Notary Public for many years. His death occurred in December, 1888, at the age of about seventy-seven years.

Jonathan S. Brown, whose name heads this article, was born in Raymond, N. H., Jan. 11, 1841, and was only six years of age when brought by his parents to McHenry County. He



*Samuel W. Brown*





*Sophia E. Brown*





received his education in the district schools and Genoa Junction High School, was well drilled in the higher mathematics, and having fitted himself as a surveyor, followed this occupation in conjunction with his father some fifteen years, serving during a part of this time as Deputy Surveyor under Surveyor John Brink. He always carried on the business of farming, however, until some eight years ago, residing on the Brown homestead. On September 4, 1861, he was married in Hebron Township to Maryette Stewart, who died four years later. On Dec. 19, 1875, he married as his second wife, Emma Rugg, who was born at Linn, Wis., Oct. 9, 1855, the daughter of William and Hannah Rugg. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Brown settled on his farm in Hebron Township, remaining until 1893, when he removed to Ringwood to educate his children, building there an attractive residence. In 1900 he engaged in the drug business, erecting a commodious building for this purpose. He and his wife are members of the Methodist church, and in politics he is a Republican. He has served fourteen years as Justice of the Peace, being first elected to fill a vacancy in Hebron Township. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are parents of two children: Florence and Samuel W. Mr. Brown well sustains the high reputation for sterling integrity and usefulness as a citizen established by his pioneer father.

Sketches of the children of Samuel W. and Sophia (Cogswell) Brown:

Francis C. Brown was born at Raymond, N. H., April 22, 1842; received a good common-school education, studied surveying and was engaged in the business of a surveyor with his father, whose surveying instruments he inherited. He married Mary Clarke, of Bixby, Steele County, Minn., and they have had three children, viz.: Charles, Harry and Edna. Mr. Brown is the owner of a large farm in Steele County, Minn.

Jane B. Brown was born in New Hampshire, Oct. 28, 1840. She married Lewis Ellington, a bank cashier of Crookston, Minn., and they have one son, Elmer.

George W. Brown was born on the old homestead in McHenry County, April 11, 1851. He married Mary Widsteen, of Greenwood, McHenry County, and they have four children: Robert, Evaline, Irvin and Floyd. George W.

is a business man of Port Townsend, Washington.

Mrs. Samuel W. Brown, who still survives, has four grand-children who are married: Charles, son of Francis C., who lives in Steele County, Minn.; Harry, a farmer of the same county, who has two daughters and one son; and Florence (daughter of Jonathan S.), who married Amos W. Smith, a substantial farmer of McHenry County, and they have one daughter, Mary.

#### JOHN EDMUND BECKLEY.

Captain John Edmund Beckley, an honored citizen of Nunda, McHenry County, and a veteran of the war for the preservation of the Union, is of Puritan and New England ancestry, the progenitor of the American branch of the family having settled at an early day in Connecticut. The earliest representative of the family, of whom any record is now attainable, was Richard Beckley, who died July 3, 1760, at the age of sixty-six years, leaving three sons named John, Benjamin and Nathaniel. Nathaniel, the last named of these children, had a son Daniel, who also had a son by the same name, and Daniel (2) had a son known as Daniel (3). Daniel (3) was the father of Dr. Daniel Beckley, a patriot soldier of the Revolutionary War and grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Dr. Beckley's father died March 4, 1760, aged thirty-six years and his wife July 10, 1773, aged forty-six. Dr. Daniel Beckley was born at Wethersfield, Conn., June 11, 1758, and died Nov. 9, 1843, aged eighty-five, and his wife, Levia, Feb. 16, 1797. He fought under Washington at Trenton, N. J., and also took part in the battle on Long Island. After the Revolutionary War he studied medicine and practiced his profession in Connecticut; was also a classical scholar and a superior penman. His family Bible—which belonged to an edition published in Philadelphia in 1807, and purchased at a cost of \$6.00, Dec. 7, 1808—is now in possession of Captain Beckley, and contains not only the family record, but the constitution of the "Family Temperance Society," one of the earliest organizations of the kind in the United States, of which Dr. Beckley was a member. The volume bears evidence of having been much read and many

passages upon which the original owner evidently loved to dwell, retain marks and annotations by his hand.

Gordon Lewis Beckley, the son of Dr. Daniel Beckley, was born at Waterbury, Conn., and received a limited education. His mother having died when he was twelve years old, he was "bound out" to learn the cabinet-maker's trade. October 25, 1815, he married Phoebe Barnes, born at Granby, Conn., July 15, 1794, the daughter of Thomas Barnes. Gordon L. Beckley was a member of the Connecticut State militia, and was in the United States service during the War of 1812, being for a time stationed at Ft. Philip at the mouth of the Thames River, Conn., and participating in the engagement there. After marriage Mr. Beckley worked at his trade several years at Granby, and later lived in the town of Greene, Chenango County, N. Y., until 1838, when he came to McHenry County and located on a claim of 160 acres, about two miles north of Nunda village in what is now Nunda Township. He improved his farm, to which he made additions until he owned 200 acres, and spent here the remainder of his days. In early life he was a Universalist and always liberal in his religious views. The first post-office established in his neighborhood was located in his house, and he had charge of it as deputy postmaster. Originally a Whig, in 1856 he became a Republican. The children of George L. and Phoebe (Barnes) Beckley were: Sylvia M., born Feb. 24, 1819; Edgar L., born Dec. 7, 1823; John Edmund, born April 11, 1826; Levi P., born Feb. 22, 1833, and Gordon Lucius, born May 29, 1838, besides several who died in infancy. Two sons of Gordon L. Beckley served as soldiers in the Civil War. One of these, Gordon L., Jr., enlisted as a private in the Fifty-second Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was later promoted to a lieutenancy, veteranized and served nearly four years, taking part in the "March to the Sea" under Sherman. The other was John Edmund, the subject of this sketch, whose record will be given more fully hereafter.

Captain John Edmund Beckley was an infant when his parents removed from Connecticut to New York, and twelve years old when they came to Illinois. He well remembers the latter journey, which was by way of the Chen-

ango Canal to Utica and by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by lake steamer to Chicago, the voyage occupying eleven days. The journey by hired team from Chicago to McHenry County, largely through an unsettled country, consumed five days. After coming to McHenry County Captain Beckley spent two winters in a school in the Button neighborhood, was a pupil for five winter terms at the Nunda school, then spent one winter in Fowler's Academy near Kenosha, Wis., and, later, was a student during one winter term in a select school kept by Hiram Clark, in Woodstock. He then became a teacher for six successive winters, having charge of schools at Nunda and Ridgefield. October 22, 1854, Capt. Beckley was married at Nunda, to Emma C. Mack, who was born at Sidney Center, N. Y., March 16, 1855, the daughter of Abner and Huldah (Watrous) Mack. Soon after marriage he settled on a tract of 160 acres of land, one-fourth of which was a part of his father's estate, the remainder having been purchased by him. In a business way he has been successful, and previous to his retirement from active business life in 1884, had accumulated a comfortable competence.

In August, 1862, Mr. Beckley took an active part in the organization of the Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in response to the call of President Lincoln for 600,000 men. Of the ten companies composing the regiment seven were credited to McHenry County and three to Boone. The regiment was organized with Hon. Lawrence S. Church, of Woodstock, as Colonel, Thomas W. Humphrey, of De Kalb County, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Leander Blauden of Harvard, McHenry County, Major, and formally mustered into the service at Camp Fuller, Rockford, Sept. 4, 1862. About one-half of a company had been enlisted largely through the efforts of Mr. Beckley from Nunda Township, and uniting this with a part of a company raised by E. J. Cook, the result was the formation of Company D, which organized by the election of Mr. Cook as Captain and Mr. Beckley as First Lieutenant. The election of Mr. Cook to the captaincy of the company was in accordance with the wishes and advice of Mr. Beckley, because of the previous military experience of the former. Captain Cook having died as the result of wounds received in the



assault on Vicksburg, on May 22, 1863, Lieutenant Beckley was promoted to succeed him, his commission bearing date June 11, 1863. The service of the Ninety-fifth Illinois was memorable for its activity and the large number of important campaigns and engagements in which it participated, as well as the vast extent of country over which it traveled. Leaving Camp Fuller for the field early in November, 1862, it soon after reported to General Hurlbut, at Grand Junction, Tenn., and was assigned to General McArthur's Division, Thirtieth Army Corps. Movements in which it still later took part included Gen. Grant's advance into Northern Mississippi in the fall of 1862, with the battle of Tallahatchie; the Vicksburg campaign of 1863, including the battles of Grand Gulf, Raymond, and Champion Hills, with the assaults at Vicksburg of May 19th and 22d, and the operations about Natchez. Capt. Beckley was with that portion of the regiment that took part in the Red River expedition, and was at the capture of Fort De Russey, and also in the ill-fated Guntown, Miss., affair, where he was wounded. Later, he took part in the campaign in Arkansas and the pursuit of Price through Missouri in the fall of 1864, and the operations against Hood about Nashville, Tenn., which culminated in the battles of December 15th and 16th. In the spring of 1865, he saw active duty on the Gulf coast, participating in the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely which resulted in the surrender of Mobile in the last days of the war.

After the war his regiment performed garrison duty at various points in Alabama and elsewhere in the Gulf States. Its numbers having by this time been seriously depleted by hard service, on Aug. 25, 1865, the recruited portion of the regiment was transferred to the Forty-seventh Illinois, the remainder being mustered out at Springfield, Ill. The Forty-seventh was mustered out at Selma, Ala., Jan. 21, 1866. During its term of service the Ninety-fifth traveled 9,960 miles.

In March, 1864, Captain Beckley, in command of a detachment from the Ninety-fifth, escorted some 300 Confederate prisoners, captured at Fort De Russey, to New Orleans, and a written testimonial from the Confederate officers of the party, to the kind treatment received at the hands of Captain Beckley and the troops

under his command, constitutes one of the treasured mementoes of his war experience. Another experience of a more painful character was an injury received by Captain Beckley from a sliver of a shell which struck him on the forehead during the battle at Guntown, Miss., which has finally resulted in total deafness. During the siege of Vicksburg, Capt. Beckley had charge of a tunnel and mines under the Confederate works, and four of his men were killed by hand-grenades thrown by the enemy. Captain Beckley is a Republican and has exercised much influence in local affairs. For a time previous to the Civil War he held the office of Justice of the Peace, and administered the oath to the recruits who enlisted in his company.

Captain and Mrs. John E. Beckley have children named Frank, Phoebe, Fanny, Major H., Welcome, Gordon and Clara. Mrs. Beckley's father, Abner Mack, was a son of Joel and Susan (Andrus) Mack, of Harpersfield, N. Y. Joel Mack enlisted as a soldier of the Revolution before he was sixteen years old, and served to the end of the war, taking part in the battle of Monmouth and many other historic engagements. Returning to Harpersfield after the war, he had charge of a hotel there until his death at seventy years of age. His son Abner was born at Harpersfield, June 12, 1785, and married there Sept. 4, 1814, Huldah Watrous, who was a native of Ridgefield, Conn., born June 18, 1794, the daughter of James and Sarah (Boughton) Watrous. James Watrous, born in Connecticut, lived at Harpersfield, N. Y., as early as 1813, and died at Windsor, N. Y., at the age of eighty-four. Abner Mack, the father of Mrs. Beckley, kept the hotel at Harpersfield until about 1832, when he moved to Sidney Center, N. Y., and from there, in 1848, to Nunda, McHenry County, Ill., where he engaged in farming. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and took part in the "Anti-rent war" in New York. In politics he was a Democrat. He died on his farm in Nunda Township, McHenry County, in 1871, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Abner Mack were: James R., Susan, William, Joel, Frederick, Hannah, Richard, Emilia, Emma, Francis and one who died in infancy.



**DEXTER BARROWS.**

This venerable and respected citizen of Harvard is one of the oldest pioneers of Dunham Township now living. His date of settlement is 1839. Mr. Barrows descends from old Colonial Vermont stock, and from English Puritan ancestors. Alfred Barrows, his grandfather, was a farmer of Orange County, Vt., who served his country in the war of the Revolution. He married and of his children, Ora, Alfred and Sally are remembered. He died in Vermont.

Alfred Barrows, son of the above and father of Dexter Barrows, was born in Orange County, Vt., about 1789, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812, on the Onion River in Northern Vermont. His brother, Ora, was also in this war. Alfred Barrows married Esther Dexter in Vermont, in the town of Pomfret, where she was born. She was the daughter of a soldier of the Revolution who served seven years and was in many battles. He was taken prisoner and was confined on board of a British prison ship. After marriage he settled on a farm in Thetford, Vt., which he cleared up from the primeval forest. His children were Maria, Percy, Dexter, Isaac (who died young), Sarah (who died a young married woman), Aaron and Asa. Mr. Barrows moved to Illinois in 1846, after his son Dexter had settled in Dunham Township. Here he bought eighty acres of unimproved land and built a frame house. His wife died the same season and he sold out and returned to Vermont, but in his old age he returned and lived with his children. He reached the great age of ninety-four years and died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Maria Moore. In political opinions Mr. Barrows was first a Democrat and later one of the original Republicans. He was a man who had worked hard all his active life and was respected by all as an upright citizen.

Dexter Barrows, of whom we write, was born in Thetford, Orange County, Vt., Nov. 4, 1814. He received the usual district-school education and worked on the farm when he was young. At about twenty years of age he went to Roxbury, Mass., and worked for a Dr. Robbins four years. He carefully saved his money, drawing but seven dollars during this time. He took a note at the end of each year and had \$750 saved up when the four years were com-

pleted. In September, 1839, he came to Illinois and, besides his own money, brought \$800 for Jonathan Moore, his brother-in-law, who had settled in Kane county, Ill., two years previously. Mr. Barrows made the journey west by means of stage to Whitehall and a packet on the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by steamboat to Chicago, where he arrived Sept. 9, 1839. He then went by team to St. Charles, Ill., and with his brother-in-law looked over the country for land, and finally selected land in Dunham Township, McHenry County. Mr. Barrows entered his land at the United States Government Land office at \$1.25 per acre. It consisted of 320 acres of unimproved prairie and timber land on Section 9. Mr. Moore bought 400 acres adjoining Section 8.

Mr. Barrows returned with Mr. Moore to St. Charles, where they sawed a quantity of lumber for building purposes. Mr. Barrows hauled this lumber forty miles to his claim, driving a yoke of oxen with a span of horses in the lead. There was no track part of the way and he found his way through the timber by a blazed trail, and from Marengo they followed practically the same road that is now used. From Kishwaukee to Big Foot there was an Indian trail. That winter Mr. Barrows hauled enough lumber to his claim to make the floors, doors and roof of a log house. In March Mr. Moore moved to his claim and they both built log houses. In June following Mr. Barrows broke twelve acres of land. In September he returned to Vermont and went to Stratham, N. H., for his wife, but they were married at his father's in Thetford, the two places being near the State line. He was married during the first days of October, 1840, to Olive E. Simpson, who was born at Stratham, N. H., in 1816, the daughter of David and Lavina Simpson. David Simpson was a farmer and well-to-do for his day. He lived to the venerable age of about eighty years. His children were David, Horatio, George, LaFayette, Nancy, Dolly, Lavina, Olive E., Jane and Harriet.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Barrows came directly west in October, 1840, by way of the Erie Canal and the great lakes. Mr. Barrows settled on his land, worked hard and prospered by good management, erected substantial farm buildings and had a fine farm. He was one

of the Commissioners of McHenry County as early as 1845, serving three years and proving an efficient officer. He was Supervisor of Dunham Township for ten years, serving throughout the Civil War times, and for twenty-seven years served as Highway Commissioner. He was prominent in keeping Dunham free from draft during the Civil War and was an efficient and public-spirited man. In political opinions he was in early life a strong Jacksonian Democrat, and voted that ticket twenty-two years, but for the past forty-four years he has been a stanch Republican. He voted for John C. Fremont, the first Republican Presidential candidate, and for the immortal Lincoln. He has been a member of the Methodist church for sixty-one years, joining the first Methodist class in Dunham Township and was afterwards class-leader, and has always been a prominent member of his church. He assisted to build the first Methodist church in Dunham Township and in Chemung Township, and has assisted in building two Methodist churches in Harvard. He has been very liberal in the support of his church. His children are as follows: Sarah Elizabeth, George D., who died a soldier in the Civil War; Dexter S.; Darwin A.; Adelbert A.; Alvin H., Harvey H., and Lewis E. Mrs. Barrows died June 29, 1881. She was a devout member of the Methodist church and a pioneer woman of many virtues.

Mr. Barrows married the second time, Aug. 15, 1883, Mrs. Catherine (Hill) Kellogg, a widow lady, nee Catharine Hill. She was born Sept. 6, 1834, daughter of Patrick and Mary (Hainer) Hill.

Patrick Hill was of American ancestry of English descent. He was born in New York State. Mary Hainer, his wife, was of a Pennsylvania Dutch family, born in Rensselaer County, N. Y. Patrick Hill was a carpenter by trade and also a farmer of Saratoga County, N. Y., where he reared his family. His children were Clarissa, Catherine, Isaiah, Elizabeth, William, Harvey and Simon. He moved to Illinois in 1839 and settled on Bonus Prairie, Boone County, Ill., where he improved a farm of 160 acres. In his old age he moved to Harvard and retired, where he died July 4, 1867. He was born Dec. 6, 1802, was a member of the Methodist church and class-leader in New York State for many years. He had three

sons in the Civil War—Isaiah, William and Simon.

Mrs. Catherine (Hill) Barrows was first married in Boone County, Ill., to Henry Kellogg, June 2, 1858. Mr. Kellogg was a farmer, born in New York State, son of Joseph Kellogg, and came west when a young man. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg settled on a farm in Boone County, and here he died Nov. 5, 1860. He was a member of the Methodist church and a man of upright character. Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg were the parents of one daughter, Mary Olive. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Kellogg returned home and cared for her aged parents. They came to Harvard during the Civil War. Mrs. Barrows has been a member of the Methodist church for many years, joining at fifteen years of age. She is a lady of high character and has many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Barrows have a pleasant residence and are among the most respected citizens of Harvard. Mr. Barrows is one of the pioneers who were foremost in the early settlement of McHenry county. To such men as these, the country owes a debt of gratitude which it is unable to pay. A historical society should be founded in McHenry county to preserve the records and portraits of the pioneers before the matter now obtained is scattered and the opportunity lost.

Mr. Barrows relates many reminiscences of pioneer days. He passed over the site of Woodstock with teams during the winter of 1839-40, when there was no house within two miles of it, finding his way by a blazed trail. There was then no settlement at Harvard. During the winter of 1842 Mr. Burrows hauled pork to Chicago and sold it for one and one-half cents per pound. The trip occupied three and one-half days with horses and wagon. Mr. Barrows is an honored citizen of the county and has served on the grand jury many times.

#### RUFUS BROWN.

Rufus Brown, one of the few remaining pioneers of McHenry County, comes of sterling New England ancestry who came from England and settled in Connecticut in the early colonial period. David Brown, the father of Rufus, was born in Connecticut,



where he was raised on his father's farm and received a good common-school education. He had two brothers—Rufus and Simeon—and one sister, Lucy, who married a Mr. Merriman. At the age of twenty-one years, David Brown went to New York State, where he engaged as a teamster for a tannery at Chenango Forks, on the Onondaga River, and hauled leather from that point into Canada, disposing of his commodity at the place last mentioned. He was married in Broome County, N. Y., to Eliza Sutherland, a native of New York State and a daughter of David Sutherland, who was of sturdy Holland-Dutch stock. After marriage David Brown settled at Barker, Broome County, N. Y., on 200 acres of unimproved land, which he cleared of heavy timber and converted it into a well-improved farm and comfortable home, making subsequent additions until his estate consisted of 300 acres. Here he passed the remainder of his days, dying at the age of seventy-eight years. Mr. Brown's first wife died when forty-seven years of age, and he married as his second wife Mariam Kenyon. By his first marriage the following named children were born: John, Lott, George, Robert, Rufus and Franklin, who died in California. Of these children, Robert was captain in a regiment of New York Infantry during the Civil War, and was later promoted to Colonel; George served in the Civil War in a regiment of Iowa Infantry. By his second marriage Mr. Brown had children named Eliza, Lucy, Octavia, Almira, Simeon and Harley M. In political opinions he was an old line Whig and held the office of Town Collector for many years. By industrious habits and good management Mr. Brown became a well-to-do citizen, and was highly respected for his sterling qualities and straightforward principles. In religious belief he was a Universalist.

Rufus Brown, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Broome County, N. Y., June 22, 1824. He received the usual limited common-school education of his day, and remained on his father's farm until twenty-one years of age. In 1845 he came to McHenry County, Ill., and the same year was married to a former school-mate, Harriet L. Brown, who was born in Broome County, N. Y., Oct.

11, 1825, the daughter of William and Betsy (Chamberlain) Brown.

William Brown, who was of another stock than the subject of this sketch, was a native of Pennsylvania, but in early manhood located in Broome County, N. Y., where he became a lumberman and married Betsy Chamberlain, a daughter of Conrad Chamberlain, who was of Holland-Dutch ancestry and a native of New York State. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown six children were born, viz.: Henry, John, Harriet, Catherine, Morris and Frances. In 1844 William Brown removed to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Dorr Township, where he cleared an 80-acre farm from the heavily-timbered oak openings and made a comfortable home. In later years he moved to Howard County, Iowa, and a few years later to Clay County, S. D., settling on unimproved prairie land, which he converted into an excellent farm and lived there the remainder of his life, dying at the age of seventy-eight years. Mr. Brown was twice married, his second wife being Catherine Test of McHenry County, Ill., and to this union one daughter, Antonetta, was born. In political opinions he was first an old line Whig and later a Republican; in religious belief, a Universalist. In earlier life Mr. Brown was possessed of an excellent voice, and was recognized as one of the leading pioneer singing masters.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Brown settled on an 80-acre farm in Dorr Township, McHenry County, upon which a small log house had been built and twenty acres of the land had been broken. Eight years later he sold this farm to Jacob Snyder—in whose possession it still remains—and purchased his present homestead, then consisting of 160 acres, to which he has made subsequent additions until he now owns an estate of 242 acres, besides having divided 228 acres of land among his children. When Mr. Brown bought his present homestead, only twenty acres of the land had previously been tilled, and its present high state of cultivation, as well as the increase in area, represents what has been accomplished by his industrious habits, careful management and many years of hard labor, combined with the faithful assistance of his industrious and devoted wife. To Mr. and Mrs.

Brown the following named children have been born: Luella, born May, 16, 1853; Ardell, born May 2, 1854; Franklin, born July 9, 1856; Othello and Orlow (twins), born April 13, 1863; and Lulu, born Dec. 15, 1867. Originally an old line Whig, Mr. Brown later became a Republican, and is now Independent in political opinions. Both he and his wife are Universalists in religious belief.

Mr. Brown was a member of the first McHenry County Republican Convention, which was held in 1856 in the old court house that stood in the center of the public square in Woodstock. This convention was called for the purpose of organizing a Republican party in McHenry County, which was then being organized throughout the country. Those who were present at this memorable gathering were George Gates, Hamilton Nixon, Lawrence S. Church, Anthony Overocker, William Mead, two men from the Kishwaukee district by the name of Stewart, Jesse Miller, Samuel Terwilliger and Mr. Brown, who is the only surviving member.

Mr. Brown is a man of liberal views and, as a public-spirited citizen, has always taken an active part in support of any movement for the benefit of his community. When it was first proposed under a new State law that McHenry County should have a poor-farm to be a home for those people who are dependent upon the public for support, the measure failed to receive a sufficient number of votes to become a law, and Mr. Brown and Nelson Blakesley were the only men in Dorr Township who supported it with their votes. Although frequently selected as a candidate for public office, Mr. Brown has always declined to accept the honor, except in one instance, when he served as Road Commissioner for one term. He has, however, often been chosen by his neighbors to act as a friendly arbitrator in the settlement of controversies arising from disagreement in business transactions, and in this connection is familiarly known as "Squire Brown." He has always been a firm advocate of the temperance cause, and is a man of strict moral character. He and his wife have spent most of their mature years in McHenry County, where they are well known among the old settlers, and have raised an excellent family of

children, who now rank among our best citizens.

#### CHARLES R. BROWN.

Charles R. Brown, farmer and pioneer citizen of Harvard, McHenry County, was born in Sharon, Litchfield County, Conn., April 3, 1818, the only son of Charles and Marilla (Beard) Brown. His father having died when the son was three years old, the latter was brought up by his grandfather, Solomon Beard, who was an old resident of Sharon. The family having moved to Chenango County, N. Y., Charles grew up there receiving a common-school education. His mother married as her second husband Amasa Cook, a farmer, and the children by this marriage were: Amasa, William and Jane. Mr. Cook settled near Elmira, Chenango County, N. Y., but later removed to Rochester, N. Y., and finally to Erie. Here Charles remained with his mother until he reached the age of eighteen years, when he began to shift for himself. After working some eight years for John Minier, a hotel keeper, on May 16, 1844, he married Esther Thompson, born in Erie County, N. Y., the daughter of James and Mehitabel (Coon) Thompson. In the following September Mr. Brown came to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey from Buffalo to Chicago on the old-time Lake steamer "Madison," commanded by Capt. Blake, a well-known character of that day. The journey from Chicago to McHenry County was made in a two-horse wagon. Mr. Brown had saved \$109 and with this he entered eighty acres of land at the government price of \$1.25 an acre, about one and a half miles from the present site of the town of Harvard, but fifteen years before it was laid out. After living in a shanty for one year, he erected a frame house 16 by 20 feet, where he and his wife lived in true pioneer style. By industry, economy and good management he added to his real estate until he became the owner of 560 acres adjoining the town of Harvard, besides dealing in other property on which he made large profits. He assisted in the organization of Chemung Township, where he held the office of Justice of the Peace four years, was Supervisor three years



and Road Commissioner a number of years; was also a leader in public improvements and assisted in the erection of school houses and churches. Mr. and Mrs. Brown became the parents of five daughters: Emma, who married Gilbert Brainerd; Ellen, married Fletcher Brainerd; Mollie, first married Charles Griswold, and afterwards, as her second husband, H. B. Cook; Frances, married Abel Upham, and Alice married as her first husband, H. H. Magraw, and, as her second husband, H. D. Cool. In political opinions Mr. Brown was originally an old line Whig, but afterwards became a Republican, supporting Fremont and Lincoln for the Presidency. While Supervisor of his township, he assisted to raise the money to complete the quota of the township without recourse to a draft during the Civil War, and, during the latter part of that period, saved the county thousands of dollars by his prudent and conservative policy. After Gen. Grant's first term as President, he became a Democrat, and has since remained identified with that party. Mrs. Brown died about 1883, and on May 25, 1886, Mr. Brown was married, in Charles City, Floyd County, Iowa, to Matilda Cransberry, a widow lady whose maiden name was Jackson. Mr. and Mrs. Brown now reside in Harvard, and are counted among its most worthy and respected citizens. Some ten years ago, in company with his son-in-law, Mr. Upham, Mr. Brown purchased 1,460 acres of land in Floyd County, Iowa, part of which now lies within the corporate limits of Charles City. His career affords an illustration of the results attainable by a self-made, self-educated man, through industry, economy and sound business methods. An incident related by Mr. Brown, in connection with his early life, is the following: When a boy about ten years old, he saw Sam Patch, the famous diver, make his memorable leap into the Genessee River below the falls. The first leap was made from a platform at the head of the fall, ninety feet above the surface of the water at the foot. This was performed skillfully and successfully, Patch parting the water cleanly and gracefully with his hands and head, scarcely leaving a break in the surface. He rose quickly and swam rapidly towards the shore, refusing the aid of the boat which was in waiting, amid the wild applause of the as-

sembled multitude. He had a black bear with him, which he had trained to make the leap, and which he partly pushed from the platform. The bear came up safely, swam to the shore and returned to Patch on the platform, who then made his leap. Becoming reckless under the influence of his success, one week later while intoxicated, Patch made a second jump over the falls from a platform twenty-five feet higher than the one used on the previous occasion—the distance to the boiling water below requiring a sheer leap of 115 feet. This time Patch went down like a log, striking the water heavily and at full length. Sinking beneath the surface he never came up alive, but the next spring after the ice had gone out, his swollen body was found. It is said that Patch had been crossed in love and thus rendered desperate. His first leap had been made over the Passaic Falls in New Jersey. His famous jumps were a great sensation of the time and won for him great notoriety, making the name of "Sam Patch" a synonym for reckless daring.

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#### LESTER BARBER.

Lester Barber, ex-Mayor of Marengo, is a man of wide experience and marked versatility, who has grown into prominence with the development of McHenry County, where he has been a leading citizen for over forty years. As a successful and progressive farmer, as an educator in the capacity of teacher and County Superintendent of Schools, as Cashier and Director of the Dairyman's Bank at Marengo, and for years as a local public office-holder, few men have had a more active business career in McHenry County. At the age of sixty-eight years, he is now giving his time and attention to looking after his interests as owner of a well-improved farm and of stock in local corporations.

Mr. Barber is the son of Humphrey and Maria (Potter) Barber, and, on the paternal side, is descended from two old New England families—the Barbers and the Conants. An incident in connection with a branch of the Conant family was the finding of a powder-horn, accidentally left in their possession by a troop of soldiers who were quartered in

their house at the time of Shay's rebellion, in 1786, and which has been handed down through several generations. The relic was found behind a chest, by Joseph, the seven-year-old son of the family, who kept it during his lifetime, and then gave it to his son Joseph. The latter, upon his death-bed, having no direct descendant, gave it to Amory Barber's infant son, naming him Joseph. From this Joseph Barber it has passed on to Joseph Barber (2), and is now owned by Joseph Barber (3), a resident of Marengo. The horn is large and clear, highly decorated, and will hold a pound of powder. It is believed to have been carried through the French and Indian War, as well as through the Revolution.

Benjamin Conant, the maternal great-grandfather of Lester Barber, was born in 1765, and died in 1837. He married a Miss Gale, and, after her death, took a second wife. By his first marriage there were seven children: Benjamin, who married Philena Conant; Betsy, married Joseph Barber, grandfather of Lester; Polly, married Rufus Wheelock; Mercy, who died at the age of fourteen years; Jerusha, married Joel Greely; Luthera, married Milton Lord, and Myra, who died at the age of sixteen years. By the second marriage there were three children: Clark, who married Samantha Grand; Charles, married Fanny Watts, and Amanda, married Harry Stearns.

The Barber family came from England to Rhode Island about 250 years ago, and their descendants have spread over Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and other parts of the country. The Connecticut branch spelled the name "Barbour." In the branch with which we are especially concerned, the name Joseph has been prevalent as well as the trade of shoe-maker.

Joseph Barber, great-grandfather of Lester, born in Rehoboth, R. I., June 5, 1744, moved to Warwick, Franklin County, Mass., about 1765, and there married Lydia Miller, who was born March 15, 1742. She died and he afterward married a woman named Churchman. By the first marriage there were eight children: Benjamin, died at the age of two weeks; Hulla, married Adam Streater; Mary, married Benjamin Watts, and died in 1839; Lydia, married Palmer Whitney; Joseph, who is mentioned below; Rebecca, who married John Whitmore,

a rifleman under Gen. Morgan in the Revolutionary war, and Parley, who married George L. Row. No children came of the second marriage. Mr. Barber died at Java Village, N. Y., about 1824, in his eightieth year, and is buried in the old cemetery at Strykersville, N. Y.

Joseph Barber, grandfather of Lester Barber, was born about 1788. In 1804, at Warwick, Mass., he married Betsy Conant, and they had ten children, all of whom were born in Warwick, viz.:

Amory, born June 29, 1805, and died in 1890; married Alzina Potter, and had six children: Betsy; Maria (deceased), Elliott, who was living in 1895; Emily, who died in infancy; Myron (deceased), and Joseph, who is still living in Marengo.

Humphrey (father of Lester Barber), whose sketch is given later in this article.

Asenath, born Oct. 8, 1808, married Reckard Reed in 1829, and they had four children: Eliza, Lucena (the only surviving member of the family), Juliette and Charles. The mother of this family, Asenath (Barber) Reed, who was residing at Thompson, Ill., in 1895, is now deceased.

Diana, born Dec. 8, 1810, in 1831 married Alonzo Taylor, and they had ten children: Laura, Melissa, who was living in 1895; Katherine, Joseph, Susannah, Fred and Almon, who were living in 1895; a child who died in infancy, Alonzo, and Ida, who was living in 1895. Mrs. Taylor died in 1871.

Benjamin, born Dec. 9, 1812, died Dec. 31, 1893. He married Eliza Carroll in 1834, and they had seven children, viz.: A child who died in infancy; James, who died in the Civil War; Elon, Edson, Ruth, Judson and Irene, all of whom were living in 1895.

Tryphena, born Oct. 5, 1814, died in 1857. She married Alonzo Willey in 1836, and they had eight children: Edwin, Caroline, who was alive in 1895; Mary, Ellen, still living in 1895; Edgar, two children who died in infancy, and Jane, who was living in 1895.

Philena, born Sept. 28, 1816, and died in 1882. In 1842 she married Thomas Burnham, and they had six children: Maria, who was living in 1895; Luthera, Emily, and Betsy, who were living in 1895; Dwight, and Charles.

Joseph, born Feb. 18, 1819, died June 26, 1841.



Jerusha, born March 28, 1841, died in April, 1895. She married and had seven children, all except one of whom were living in 1895, viz.: George, Emorette (deceased), Lydia, Betsy, a child who died in infancy, Vesper, and Clara.

Chandler, born April 17, 1823, died June 14, 1895. On Oct. 20, 1844, he married Alma Balcom, and they had five children, all of whom were living in 1895, viz.: Mary, Alice, Wallard, Ellis, and Amy.

After marriage Mr. Barber settled in Warwick, Mass., where he engaged in the tannery business, and also worked at shoemaking. In the hope of bettering his fortune and those of his children, on Sept. 17, 1823, Mr. Barber started with a wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen and carrying his family, together with 3,500 pounds of household goods and other belongings, for Java, Wyoming County, N. Y., a distance of 400 miles from Warwick. This wagon had a cover of sole leather costing \$40, which he used after reaching his destination in making boots and shoes. Another wagon, drawn by a single horse, bore his aged father, then seventy-nine years old and totally blind. Three days later, he and his son Humphrey followed on foot, overtaking the family the first night, a distance of forty miles from their home. It was a curious journey; beds were hired at fifty cents a night, and five or six children packed into each, lengthwise, crosswise, or any way. The descent of the Green Mountains was managed by various devices, as for instance the hitching of one yoke of oxen to the rear of the wagon to check its movement as it descended some steep declivity, or making a sort of plow of the wagon itself, by attaching to it the sharpened trunk of a pine tree. Crossing the Hudson at Albany, then quite a village, they finally, on Oct. 8, 1823, arrived at the home of Palmer Whitney, on the site of the present village of Java.

With his usual business sagacity and forethought, Mr. Barber exchanged one yoke of oxen for forty acres of land—a portion of which is now owned by his grandson, Elon Barber—besides purchasing 120 acres more. He also secured a half interest in a grist-mill, where he set his son Benjamin at work, and purchased another half interest in a tannery for Humphrey, thus making his influence felt at once in the life of the little community. With

his other sons he went to work and cleared up the farm, set out good orchards, and became a prosperous farmer. He died in 1839 at the age of fifty-nine years and four months. Mr. Barber was a sturdy, energetic man with marked business ability, and was the progenitor of a vigorous and prolific race. Not less than 240 offspring have descended from him and his sister Judah Whitney, many of whom served in the Civil War, and every battlefield of the Civil War, it is said, was stained with Barber blood.

Humphrey Barber, the father of Lester, a teacher, tanner, farmer, and a man influential in public affairs, was born in Warwick, Mass., Nov. 11, 1806, and there received a good common-school education. After removing, at seventeen years of age, with his parents to Wyoming County, N. Y., at different times he taught school, ran a tannery and followed the trade of a carpenter. In 1834 he married at Java Village, Maria Potter, who was born there, the daughter of Edmond Potter, a Java farmer and a descendant of an old New England family. He was a soldier of the War of 1812, and fought at Lundy's Lane. He married Betsy Eddy, and they had ten children: Alzina, who married Amory Barber; Maria, who is mentioned above; Nancy, married Jarvis Whitney; Lucinda, married Franklin Whitney; Alvira, married Washington Nichols; Elizabeth, married Lorenzo Persons, and Cornelia, married Charles Knowlton. Henry W. Potter, of Titusville, Pa., was at one time a noted oil magnate. Starting with a capital of \$5, he first borrowed and invested small sums, then larger ones until he risked \$2,500, when he began to make money rapidly, finally accumulating a large fortune. Later closing out the oil business, he went to the city of New York and engaged in the banking business, having as a partner Chauncey M. Depew. He married Minerva Nurse, but finally lost his money. Almon Potter, a Marengo farmer, who married Martha Fields, died in Marengo in 1900. Norman Potter married Nellie Marsh, and died in Austin, Texas, in 1901. Late in life the father of these, in 1851, moved to Riley Township, McHenry County, where he lived with his son Almon, and there, at the age of seventy-five years, he died. He was a man of prominence in his day, and a consistent member of

the Baptist church of Strykersville, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey Barber had nine children: Lester, who is mentioned below; Lucinda, who married William B. Mallory, a soldier of the Civil War; Lucius W., also a soldier, who, a few years after the war, died from the effects of privations endured while a prisoner at Andersonville; Amanda, who married W. A. Sheldon, died in Belvidere, July 3, 1898; Alzina, born Oct. 4, 1844, who never married, died Jan. 28, 1862; Morvilla, who, after the death of her sister Lucinda, married William B. Mallory; Rosalie, who married Frank Stevens, and Amory, who never married but lives on the home farm, where he cared for his aged mother until her death. Of these children, only three are living in 1903, viz.: Lester, Rosalie, and Amory.

After marriage Mr. Barber continued to reside in Java, N. Y., where for fifteen years he conducted a tannery, carrying on a thriving business. A trip to Illinois, in 1850, in spite of a shipwreck and a week's delay on the way, induced him to bring his family to that State, and, in 1851, they arrived in Riley Township, McHenry County, where he purchased an 80-acre tract of improved land. Here he erected good buildings, improved and brought his land under cultivation, and, adding to it some twenty acres by purchase, finally became the owner of a 100-acre farm. Here he finally died at the age of sixty-eight years. Always an influential man, Mr. Barber, in Java, N. Y., served as Justice of the Peace for fifteen years, and after coming to Riley Township, filled the same office for some time with equal credit. In politics he was a strong Douglas Democrat, and in religious sentiment a Universalist.

Lester Barber has made his own way in life. Born in Java, N. Y., Nov. 8, 1835, he was but fifteen years old when his parents moved to Riley Township, McHenry County, Ill., where he took a strong hand in improving his father's farm. At that early age, with a yoke of oxen, he hauled lumber from Elgin to build the new farm-house, and on these trips often added to his pocket money by using his oxen to drag the old stage-coach out of a slough in the muddy roads, always receiving a quarter from the driver for the job. In the well-regulated schools of his neighborhood, conducted in comfortable buildings, under such teachers as

George Dean, afterward County Superintendent in Iowa, Mr. Barber secured his early education, attending the winter school until he was twenty-one years old, and receiving practical drill in Colburn's Mental Arithmetic—in his opinion the best authority in its line. So ambitious was he that, at the early age of eighteen, in Coral Township, he taught school for one term. A gift for imparting knowledge and preserving order induced him to follow the profession, and, for seventeen winters, he continued his labors in the same vicinity, spending his summers in farm work.

On Nov. 20, 1863, at the age of twenty-eight, Mr. Barber married in Coral Township, Mary M. Bartholomew, who was born in that place, April 19, 1845. Of this union there have been six children: Charles Norman; Catherine Lucinda, who married Prof. James Ingersol, a native of Marengo, and a graduate of Yale College who is now an instructor in the Languages and Roman Law Department of that institution; Charles N., who married Carrie Axtell; Mary M., married William T. Dougherty, a druggist of Marengo; Harriet Ehle, who has been a teacher in Austin, Ill., for the past eight years, and Ruth, a young lady now living at home.

The spring following his marriage, Mr. Barber purchased a 100-acre farm in Coral Township, which had on it a log house and barn and during the first summer erected there a good frame house, where he settled. He improved his land and, while cultivating it, made additions to it by the purchase of twenty acres more. In addition to farming, which he carried on successfully for fifteen years, he followed his profession as school-teacher, teaching for four years in the Union graded schools six miles away. An enthusiastic and able instructor, he won a wide popularity, and, in 1884, was elected County Superintendent of Schools. Taking up his residence at Marengo, he filled the office for six years, greatly improving the condition of the schools and adding to his already well-established reputation. Since 1890 he has given some attention to agriculture, and has recently invested in a fine homestead, which he has greatly improved. He still owns his Coral Township farm, from which he also derives a good income. He has prospered, and



is now one of the substantial citizens of Marengo, where he owns a pleasant residence, purchased some years ago. Mr. Barber was one of the founders of the Dairyman's Bank, and, as its first Cashier, was identified with its management for four years, and is still one of the directors. He is Worshipful Master of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, A. F. & A. M., and also a member of Calvary Commandery, No. 25 Knights Templar.

As an unwavering Republican, Mr. Barber has been a popular political leader, having served nine years as Supervisor, for the same length of time as Road Commissioner, and for four years as Assessor of Coral Township. For twenty-five years he has acted as Deputy County Surveyor; has also served three years as a member of the Marengo City Council, turning his practical business knowledge to good account in the interest of the general public. For one term with fearless independence and marked executive ability, he acted as Mayor of the city. A man of great strength physically and intellectually, and with the interest of the general public at heart, he has been of invaluable service to the community. Mrs. Barber, who is a woman of much cultivation, has been a sympathetic co-worker, and is prominent in social functions. As a member of the Ladies of the Maccabees of Marengo, she has filled the office of Lady Commander. The Presbyterian church counts her among its leading members.

Benjamin Rush Bartholomew, son of Sherman and Sally (Hackley) Bartholomew, and father of Mrs. Barber, was born in New York, and received a common-school education. In Cazenovia, Madison County, N. Y., he married Mary A. Knowlton, and they had four children: Sherman K.; Almira H.; Mary M., and Esther E. The father of these for some years followed the trade of a hatter, but in 1844, moved with his parents to Coral Township, McHenry County, Ill., where he secured a 200-acre tract of Government land, which he improved. In 1880 he settled in Marengo, where he was a substantial citizen. He died in 1888, at the age of eighty-three years, and his wife in 1893.

#### HON. RICHARD BISHOP.

Hon. Richard Bishop was born at Gainesville, Wyoming County, New York, Nov. 16, 1824, the son of Hezekiah and Charlotte Bishop. Hezekiah Bishop was a farmer and his children were John, Hezekiah, Charlotte and Richard, all of whom are now deceased. When Richard Bishop was seven years old, his father was killed by a falling tree, and this sad event left to the boy an inheritance of poverty. He was early obliged to devote his labor to the support of the family, and his first earnings amounted to ten cents per day at such labor as threshing grain with a flail. When about twelve years of age he went to live with a physician, and, during the three years he remained in this family, endured trials well calculated to break the heart and ruin the constitution of the average boy. Every spring he was compelled to attend to a sugar orchard of sixty-five trees, cutting wood, gathering sap and carrying the sugar home with a yoke upon his shoulders. When fifteen years old he hired to a blacksmith for three years, receiving thirty dollars for the first year, thirty-five for the second, and forty for the third. He worked faithfully and learned the trade rapidly, though laboring at some disadvantage, as he was obliged to stand on a stool in order to strike the anvil. After serving his time, he followed the trade for two years. When twenty years of age, he decided to go west, and, in the spring of 1844, had a sorrowful farewell to his mother and the little cottage that sheltered her in Gainesville, N. Y. In the silence of night he shouldered his trunk and proceeded on foot and alone for a distance of two miles, where a carriage, which he had previously engaged, awaited him and conveyed him to the boat landing. He sailed on the boat "Bunker Hill," and the day after his arrival in Chicago, took the stage for Waukegan, where his brother then resided. Later Mr. Bishop visited the old home in New York, and also had the pleasure of welcoming his mother to a more pretentious one in the West, secured by his own exertions.

After arriving in Waukegan, Mr. Bishop worked at his trade several months, receiving a compensation of \$17 per month. During the harvest season he was employed as a laborer in the field at \$1.50 per day. After harvest was

over, in company with a man named McAllister, he started for McHenry on foot. They were not to be deterred by the sloughs and lakes that lay in their way, but waded through them with their clothes tied in a bundle upon their heads. In McHenry Mr. Bishop followed blacksmithing until the following January, when he went to Waukegan and secured a job of cutting wood at fifty cents per cord. The following spring he was again pursuing his trade in McHenry, and the first year earned enough money to purchase eighty acres of land at \$1.25 per acre. This proved a profitable venture, and, as fast as he was able, he made other purchases, buying and selling with good results. From this humble beginning, in spite of reverses, fires, etc., Mr. Bishop became the owner of a large portion of the business enterprises in McHenry. His property consisted of a large grist-mill, wagon factory, agricultural implement store, pickle factory, besides a farm of nearly 1,000 acres. In 1874 he engaged in the banking business in Woodstock, which he followed two years and then purchased a choice law library at a cost of over \$1,000. He acquainted himself thoroughly with the principles of the law and gained admission to the bar. In political opinion he was a straightforward Democrat and served as Supervisor fifteen years, and in 1874 as a member of the Legislature. Mr. Bishop had also taken all the degrees in Masonry. October 19, 1849, he married Miss Mary Maurice, a native of New York. Only a few short years ago she preceded him to the land where no sorrow dwells, leaving a son, Ormus, who died in 1879, and a daughter Lola D. Lola D. is the wife of Thomas Walsh of McHenry, who, together with two children of Ormus Bishop, remain to mourn his death. The career of Mr. Bishop is an excellent illustration of what energy and will can accomplish. The following is taken from the remarks of Dr. H. T. Brown at the old settlers' meeting in August, 1895:

"Knowing Mr. Bishop well, I say without hesitation that, had his lot been cast, in his youth, where he could have received the education, the want of which he so often and so much deplored, he would have taken his place among the leading men of his day. First and foremost in his character was his wonderful, almost inexhaustible, energy. Coming to this town in its earliest days, poor in pocket, unfriended and unknown, having for his full and

only stock in trade a limited knowledge of blacksmithing, we first find him in the employ of N. S. Hate (also one of our noble and early pioneers) swinging the hammer over the anvil from earliest dawn to late at night, day after day, month after month, with the grim determination depicted in his face that said plainly to an on-looker, 'Here will I hammer my way to success. These flying sparks shall light me on my path. I will yet build a forge of my own and be the arbiter of my fortune.' How well he succeeded you all know. He did build a forge of his own and long after it was built, through his whole life in fact, that same tireless industry, that same determined energy was his guiding spirit. One of his strong characteristics was his wonderful faith in himself.—that great lever that sometimes may prove but a broken reed, but without which a man is a mere puff-ball, blown hither and thither by every passing breeze with no fixed purpose, no settled conviction or aim in life."

Mr. Bishop was naturally inclined to the study of law, and a reasonable success in our justice court led him more and more to a determination to succeed at the bar. With this end in view, he provided himself with the nucleus of a splendid library and made a fair success at the bar. Feeling the necessity of early educational advantages himself, he was a firm believer in the importance of our public schools and his voice and purse were never withheld when needed in any work he believed would place the youth of the country in a self-sustaining position.

#### HENRY BRIGHT.

Henry Bright, pioneer of Union, McHenry County, has passed most of his active career as a stone-mason in that vicinity, and, in the steady pursuit of his trade, has won for himself a substantial prosperity. At sixty-four years of age he is still strong and active, and applies himself sedulously to his business.

Mr. Bright is an Englishman by birth and ancestry, the early members of the family having been natives of Somersetshire and Gloucestershire, England. His paternal grandfather, who was a life-long resident of England, was a truck-gardener by occupation, married in early manhood and had six children, all of whom came to America: Henry S., William, a carpenter by trade who died in the West Indies; Peter, Thomas, Elizabeth and Ann.

Henry S. Bright, the father of Henry, was



born in Axbridge, England, about 1818, and received his early education in the subscription schools of his vicinity. At an early age he learned the carriage-maker's trade in Bristol, England, which he afterwards carried on in that city for many years. He there married Sarah Vernal, who bore him seven children: Henry, Sarah, Julia, Ann and Joseph, who were born in Bristol, and Thomas and William, born in America. In the spring of 1853, in the hope of improving his impaired health, he decided to come to America, and, in May of that year, embarked in a sailing vessel for New York. After his arrival he proceeded directly to Union, McHenry County, Ill., where his brother Thomas was then living. Here he settled and began working at his trade. As the outlook proved rather favorable, the following autumn he sent for his family, whom he had left in England. They made the trip from Bristol to Liverpool by steamer, and thence by the ship "Union" to New York, the voyage occupying three months. During the trip, Henry, the oldest son, then about sixteen years of age, had charge of the affairs of the family. Arriving at Union Station on the Galena & Chicago Union Railway, during a severe snow storm at two o'clock in the morning, owing to a misunderstanding they found no one there to meet them. Then, being wrongly directed, they wandered about in the storm some three hours before they reached the cabin of Thomas Bright at five o'clock in the morning. The father, Henry S. Bright, subsequently followed his employment as a carriage-maker at Marengo, Rockford and Beloit. Mrs. Bright died at Rockford, Dec. 25, 1883, at the age of 64, and Mr. Bright at Beloit in 1892, at the age of seventy-four. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bright were members of the Methodist church, and in England Mr. Bright was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was an industrious and skilled workman, and he and his wife reared an excellent family.

Henry Bright, son of Henry S. and subject of this sketch, was born in Bristol, England, May 23, 1839, and there, in the old-time subscription schools, received his early education. When about eleven years old he moved with his parents to Newport, Wales, where he was employed for some time in a large nail factory conducted by a philanthropic old bachelor, em-

ploying 3,000 hands—many of them boys—during this time attended a school supported by his employer, receiving two hours' instruction each day. The boy-employees in this factory were accustomed to work, alternately, two weeks by day and two weeks by night. Later he worked on a boat on the Avon River, which often made trips across the channel from Bristol, to Newport, Wales. He also worked some two years with his father learning the carriage-making trade. After coming to Illinois at sixteen years of age, Mr. Bright worked as a farm hand for his uncle for some years, assisting in breaking the wild prairie land, with a huge prairie-plow drawn by eight to ten yoke of oxen and turning a furrow thirty inches wide. In 1857 he began learning the trade of a stonemason, including brick-laying, plastering, etc., which has since been his life occupation.

On Sept. 30, 1859, Mr. Bright was married in Franklinville, Ill., to Nancy M. Pike, who was born in the State of New York, May 16, 1840, the daughter of Ezra and Louisa (Andrews) Pike. Mr. Pike was a pioneer settler of Coral Township, McHenry County, and died in Seneca Township.

After marriage Mr. Bright settled in Union Village, where he applied himself sedulously to his trade for some years. October 3, 1864, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Ninety-fifth Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. Eddy and participated in the battles of Nashville, Dec. 15, 1864, Spanish Fort, in April, 1865, and other important engagements, escaping without wounds or hospital treatment. He suffered an attack of fever and ague and contracted another disease, from which he has never entirely recovered. In September, 1865, he was transferred to Company E, Forty-seventh Illinois, and at Montgomery, Ala., Oct. 10, 1865, received an honorable discharge. After the war Mr. Bright resumed his trade of a stonemason with renewed energy, and has since steadily continued the business, having just completed the first brick business block in the village. He has assisted in the erection of almost every school-house in his vicinity for years, has also done work on the opera house in Marengo, Mr. Patrick's buildings and other important structures, and is now considered one of the most competent men in this line in

his section. Aided by his three sons, who learned the trade with him, he has prospered exceptionally well in his business, and now owns two blocks in Union besides several residences and other property.

Mrs. Nancy M. (Pike) Bright was a faithful helpmate of her husband for many years. They had eight children, viz.: Lydia, who died at the age of eleven years; Ulysses; Ella, died aged eleven; Bert E.; Carrie; Dora; Andrew and Sarah. Mrs. Bright was killed by an accident at the railroad crossing at Union, Oct. 16, 1890. On Oct. 24, 1894, Mr. Bright was married to Miss Adell Butts, who was born in Coral Township, the daughter of Bushrod and Urania (Howland) Butts, and they have had two children: Lee Ellis, born Aug. 11, 1895, and Lois Esther, born Aug. 14, 1899.

Mr. Bright is a man of affable manners, kind-hearted, and generous, and wins friends at every step in life. Fraternally he is affiliated with the I. O. O. F.; the A. F. & A. M. and the Harvey Wayne Post, G. A. R., of Marengo; the Knights of the Globe, of Freeport, and the Modern Woodmen of America, at Union, holding the position of banker in the latter. Both he and his wife are also members of the Eastern Star. Politically he is a stanch Republican, and at present a member of the Village Board.

Bushrod Butts, father of Mrs. Bright, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., and both he and his wife were of Welsh extraction. About 1850 he came to McHenry County and settled upon a farm in Coral Township. He died at his home in Union, Dec. 25, 1888, at the age of eighty-two years. He married Urania Howland, and they had ten children: Ophelia, Jane, LaFayette, Cynthia, Albert, Esther, Mary and Adell. LaFayette served three years in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, taking part in many battles, and Albert, enlisting in the One Hundred and Fifty-third Illinois Infantry at seventeen years of age, served seven months during the last year of the war. Their parents were highly respected citizens, and consistent members of the Baptist church.

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#### LEBBEUS H. BEACH.

Lebbeus H. Beach, Wauconda, Ill., early settler of Nunda Township, McHenry County, was born in Hartford, Trumbull County, Ohio, Aug. 1, 1834, the son of Seneca and Edna (Hart) Beach. His father, Seneca Beach, was born in Hartland, Conn., March 25, 1802, son of Lebbeus and Hope (Spencer) Beach, who were also natives of Connecticut. The mother, Edna (Hart) Beach, was born at Burlington, Hartford County, Conn. Lebbeus Beach (1) was a farmer by occupation, and, at an early day, moved with his family to Trumbull County, where he opened up a farm near the Pennsylvania State line. He and his wife had eleven children, only four of whom lived to maturity: Seneca, father of the subject of this sketch; Julia, who married a Mr. Moore and had two children—Elmina and Jerusha; Harry, who had five children—Emily, Leonora, Frank, Allison and Kirtland; and Laura, who married a Mr. Hurlburt, and had children named Rufus, Cassius, Abby, Seneca, and a daughter whose name is not remembered. Lebbeus Beach was a Justice of the Peace some thirty years, and died aged about eighty years at Hartford, Trumbull County, Ohio, and his wife at Gustavus in the same county.

Seneca Beach, at the age of fifteen years, enlisted for the War of 1812, but saw no active service; his old military coat is still preserved in the family. He had a common-school education, and was brought up on the farm. Being a natural mechanic, he could make almost any article from wood, including clocks (having been employed in a clock factory at Brookfield, Ohio, for some time), spinning-wheels, and various farm implements. At one time he made a wagon entirely of wood. Mr. Beach was twice married, first in Trumbull County, Ohio, to Anna Hart, and afterwards to her sister Edna, both born in the State of Connecticut, daughters of Ira and Margaret (Hazzart) Hart, both families being of New England stock. Mr. and Mrs. Hart had eleven children, of whom nine grew up, viz.: Dennis, Amos, Gad, Thankful, who married William Walters; Anna, married Seneca Beach; Eliza, married Silas Washburn; Lucy, married Schuyler McMaster; Morgan and Edna, who became the second wife of Seneca Beach. Mr. Hart died at Vienna, Trumbull County, Ohio.



After marriage Mr. Seneca Beach settled in Hartford, Ohio, and there his two oldest children—Lebbeus H. and Morgan H.—were born. In 1837 he moved with his family to Iowa, and settled on 200 acres of unimproved land near Brighton, Washington County, and here two children—Laura Ann and Lucy—were born. The journey to Iowa was made on a river steamer from Wheeling, W. Va., and during the passage, Mrs. Hart (the mother of Mrs. Seneca Beach) was accidentally killed by falling down the hatchway of the boat. She died on board the steamer and was buried at Ft. Madison, Iowa. When Mr. Beach settled at Brighton, there was but one white family within twenty-five miles of his house. The Black Hawk War had ended a few years before and a band of Sac and Fox Indians were camped within a distance of two miles. Lebbeus Beach used to play with the Indian children and became a favorite of the old chief, who taught him to speak the Indian language. The Indians were peaceable and frequently visited the home of Mr. Beach, where they were kindly treated. Mr. Beach improved his land, put up good buildings for his day and here passed the remainder of his life. He and his wife were members of the Congregational church, of which he was a deacon and one of the founders of the church in his neighborhood. In politics Mr. Beach was first an old-line Whig, but later adopted the principles of the Free-Soil party. He died aged about forty-eight years. For several years he served as Justice of the Peace.

Lebbeus H. Beach, the immediate subject of this sketch, was but three years of age when he moved with his parents to Iowa. Here he received a common-school education in the pioneer schools which were conducted on the subscription plan and, when eighteen years of age, began teaching in Washington County. When sixteen years of age, he became a clerk in a general store at Burlington, Iowa, and, after his career as a teacher, he remained with one firm for seven years, when he opened a general store of his own in Hardin County, Iowa, continuing in the business for two years, for a part of this time being Postmaster at New Providence.

On December 29, 1859, Mr. Beach was married at Brighton, Iowa, to Helen L. Hale, who was born at Underhill, Vt., the daughter of Orrin and Melissa (Waite) Hale. After marriage

Mr. and Mrs. Beach removed to Ford County, Ill., where they lived for eighteen months, when he bought eighty acres of land in McHenry County and later settled on a 120-acre tract in Nunda Township. In the spring of 1882 he purchased his present homestead, consisting of 120 acres, much of it being covered with a growth of young trees. Mr. Beach has made all the improvements on his farm besides adding to its area until he now owns 240 acres in Nunda Township. To Mr. and Mrs. Beach the following named children have been born: Leola C., born March 3, 1861; Leon A., born July 18, 1862, and died when about four years of age. Leola C. married R. G. Smith, and they reside on the home farm. In political belief Mr. Beach is a staunch Democrat according to the principles taught by Thomas Jefferson. He is a man of upright character and has seen much of the development of the West.

Helen L. (Hale) Beach is descended from old colonial Vermont stock. Her grandfather was a farmer in the State of Massachusetts and removed to Vermont and settled at Essex, where he died. His children were: Walter, Daniel, Orrin and Clarinda.

Orrin L. Hale, the father of Mrs. Beach, was born at Essex, Vt., Feb. 16, 1809. He was a carpenter by trade, and on Nov. 12, 1837, married Melissa Waite, who was born March 17, 1816, the daughter of David and Fannie (Lilly) Waite.

David Waite was a blacksmith by occupation and came of a Vermont family who were of English extraction. His children were: John, Fannie, Lewis, Mary, Melissa, Amity, Jason and Loraine. Mr. Waite was a soldier in one of the early wars, and a well-to-do citizen, and, at the time of his death, left a large estate to his children.

Orrin Hale settled in Essex, Vt., where he worked at his trade. His children were: Helen and Osman, both born in Essex, Vt. In the fall of 1847 he came to Illinois, by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes to Chicago, and first settled at Wauconda, Lake County. In the spring of 1848 he moved to McHenry County and settled in Nunda Township where he purchased a 120-acre claim of Thomas Sayles. This land was but slightly improved, but by industrious management he not only brought the land to a high state of cultivation, but erected upon it substantial buildings and added

to its area until he owned 320 acres. In 1875 he retired from active life and passed the remainder of his days at the home of his daughter Helen (Mrs. L. H. Beach), in Nunda Township, where he died in November. In political opinions Mr. Hale was a Democrat, and as a citizen, he was highly respected for honest principles and upright character.

Osman M. Hale, son of Orrin Hale, born in Essex, V., Feb. 22, 1843, at four years of age came with his parents to McHenry County, Ill., where he became a substantial citizen and a large land-owner, his estate consisting of about 600 acres.

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#### RASMUS BUCK.

Rasmus Buck (deceased), pioneer citizen of Nunda Township, McHenry County, was born in Rudkjobing, Denmark, Oct. 30, 1801, the son of Capt. Hans and Anna Margaret ( ) Buck. Capt. Hans Buck was a sea-captain and ship-owner, commanding his own vessel. He was a resident of Rudkjobing, a sea-port of Denmark, and was well known in his native country, where he followed the life of a seaman for many years. His career was a notable one for the fact that, although he lived to be 103 years old, he was never sick. He and his wife celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary in the same church at their old home in Denmark, in which they were married seventy-five years before. The church was decorated with flags and brilliantly illuminated, while the flags of all nations were displayed by the vessels in the harbor. A unique feature of the celebration was the presentation to Captain and Mrs. Buck, by the King, of a silver cup lined with gold. The church service was followed by a banquet and a ball in honor of Captain Buck and wife, in which they led the grand march. Both lived after this interesting event many years.

Captain and Mrs. Buck had twelve children—ten sons and two daughters. Among those who are remembered are: Hans, a wealthy merchant tailor of Copenhagen; Martha, who married a sea-captain and ship-owner; Andrew, Peter, Eliza and one son who went to South America. Peter and Martha emigrated to McHenry County, Ill., where they remained for a time, but finally removed to Iowa, where they purchased a large farm in Blooming Prairie,

Pocahontas County. Captain Hans Buck was a Lutheran in religious belief.

Rasmus Buck, of this family and subject of this sketch, received a good education in his youth, being able to speak several languages. He also learned the cabinet-maker and carpenter's trade, which he carried on some eight years in Berlin, Germany. On May 2, 1826, he was married in his home town to Clara Mausness, who was born in Denmark of Spanish parents, in 1798. Her parents having died when she was about one year old, she was reared by wealthy relatives. After marriage Rasmus Buck and wife settled in his native town of Rudkjobing, where they lived until their removal to America in 1837, coming by a sailing vessel commanded by Capt. Carl Bay, from Copenhagen to Liverpool, and thence in the ship "Independence" to New York; the voyage occupied three months. At that time Mr. and Mrs. Buck were the parents of five children who lived to years of maturity. Their names were: Magnus, Charles, Clara T., Martha and Peter. Those born to them in America were Laura A., who married Henry Bay, and Anna Margaret. Rasmus Buck was a cabinet-maker, and after his arrival in New York, found prompt employment with a piano manufacturer. He was the third Danish emigrant to locate in New York City, being preceded by E. Brandt, the first, and John Hanson, who was the second to arrive. In after years both these fellow-countrymen visited Mr. Buck at his home in McHenry County. After spending some years in New York, Mr. Buck removed to Ohio, locating in the town of Peninsula, Summit County, where he followed his trade as a cabinet-maker. In 1844 he took a new departure, this time coming to McHenry County, Ill., where he settled on the farm on which his daughter Mrs. Leisner now resides. Here he pre-empted 160 acres of Government land which he improved, in the meantime carrying on his trade as a carpenter and house-builder. Among the buildings erected by him were the Universalist church at McHenry, the residences of C. W. Huff and Deacon Button at Ridgefield, and the old Terwilliger home at Terra Cotta. The latter is an especially well-finished residence. Mr. Buck is believed to have been the first Dane to settle in McHenry County, as, at the time he passed through Chicago, he found none of that nationality in that



place. Mr. Buck spent the remainder of his life in McHenry County, and in his residence of forty years, became well and favorably known, serving for some time as Clerk of his town. He and his wife were members of the Universalist church at McHenry, and he was a prominent member of Wauconda Lodge, A. F. & A. M. In politics he was originally a Democrat, voting for Stephen A. Douglas for President in 1860, but later was a supporter of Abraham Lincoln. His death occurred at his home in McHenry County, Sept. 24, 1884.

Anna Margaret Buck, daughter of Rasmus Buck, was born on her father's homestead in Nunda Township, McHenry County, Aug. 18, 1846, was educated in the public schools and at the Todd Seminary, Woodstock, and on Sept. 29, 1867, was married to Svend B. Leisner. Mr. Leisner was born in Tronekar, Denmark, May 6, 1845, the son of Casper Adolphus and Athene Amelia (Haas) Leisner. His father was a landscape gardener and had charge of the grounds and gardens connected with the old castle in his native town. The children of Casper Leisner and wife were: Theodore, William, Sophia, Jacob, Julius, Heinrich, Albrecht, Svend B. and Adolph. All of these remained in Denmark except Svend. Casper A. Leisner died in his native country in 1855, aged fifty-two years.

Svend B. Leisner received a common-school education in Denmark and was trained up to the dry-goods business. In 1864 at the age of nineteen years he came to America, sailing from Nyborg, Denmark, to Quebec, where he arrived after a voyage by sailing vessel of seven weeks. From Quebec he came directly to Chicago, where at that time there were only twenty-seven of his countrymen. Arriving in Chicago he soon found employment in a store and remained in the mercantile business for a number of years. After their marriage in 1867, Mr. and Mrs. Leisner remained in Chicago until 1877, when Mrs. Leisner's father, Mr. Buck, having become advanced in years, they removed to the paternal homestead, where they have since resided. Mr. and Mrs. Leisner have four children, viz.: Alice Laura, born Dec. 22, 1870; Estelle Anna, born Jan. 1, 1872; Eugene R., born Nov. 9, 1874; Florence Sophia, born Aug. 22, 1877—all born in Chicago, except the youngest, who was born on the farm in McHenry County.

Mr. Leisner is a Republican in politics, and fraternally is a member of Nunda Lodge A. F. & A. M. He is a man of marked probity of character, of intelligence and business sagacity, and an honorable representative of his nationality. His son Eugene is a molder of terra cotta, and made the entrance to the main building at the Buffalo Exposition of 1901. He is now foreman of the Terra Cotta Works at Rocky Hill, N. Y.

Estelle Anna Leisner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Svend B. Leisner, married Frederick W. Bergman of Chicago, who is now a farmer of Bancroft, Iowa. They have one child named Carl William.

Magnus H. Buck, now the only surviving son of Rasmus Buck, received a thorough business education in Bell & Sloan's Commercial College, in Chicago, then read law, but preferring an agricultural life, is now a resident upon the home farm.

Clara Tena Buck, daughter of Rasmus Buck and sister of Mrs. Leisner, married George P. Bay, a well-known citizen and now retired banker of Chicago, and his brother, Henry Bay, married Mrs. George P. Bay's sister, Laura A.

CLARA T. BUCK (now Mrs. Bay), already mentioned as the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rasmus Buck, was born in Rutkoben, Denmark, Dec. 6, 1836, and came with her parents to America when two years old. After spending some time in New York they removed to Summit County, Ohio, where they remained several years. When about ten years of age Mrs. Bay came with her brothers and sisters to McHenry County, Ill., the family settling on the farm now known as "Terra Cotta" where Mr. and Mrs. Svend B. Leisner reside. The journey from Ohio was made overland, and after their arrival in Illinois, the family had few of the comforts and conveniences enjoyed by the farmers of the present day. The small grain was cut by the farmers of that day with a cradle, the hay with a scythe and the corn by hand with a corn-knife, while the cultivation of corn, potatoes and the like, was done by hand, chiefly with the hoe and the shovel-plough. There were no creameries and no sale for milk in those days; so the cream was made into butter by hand using a dash chura. Corn, when taken to mill to be manufactured into meal, had to be shelled by hand. Lucifer



matches were not made in this region nor any where near at that time; so the pioneer settlers made their own matches, using the splinters split from a pine-log and dipping the ends in melted sulphur. A steel file and a piece of flint were used to produce a spark, which was communicated to some charred cotton cloth kept in a small box to protect it from moisture, and in this way the flame was communicated to the home-made match. Horses were scarce in those days, so most of the work in the fields, such as ploughing or harrowing the land, hauling hay or grain, was done with oxen. If the early settlers wished to attend a dance, a singing or a spelling-school, they had only to hitch a yoke of young oxen to a wagon or cart to take them there.

To the older settlers the privations and hardships of pioneer life were more severe; yet this was the beginning of a new and more independent life to be followed by greater comforts and conveniences. The younger element seemed to have better times and get more enjoyment out of their surroundings than the young people of the present day. Their wants were fewer and, being taught to do all kinds of work, they were able to minister to their own comfort and enjoyment. The girls were taught to spin, to sew, milk the cows and even work in the fields, when necessary; so an occasional good time was all the more highly appreciated and heartily enjoyed.

The first year after Mr. Buck came to McHenry County the crops proved an almost entire failure, and wheat for seed was cut by hand with a pair of shears.

The daughter Clara T. lived on the farm in McHenry County until 1855 when, at the age of nineteen years, she was married to George Phillip Bay of Chicago. Mr. Bay was born at Viborg, Denmark, July 9, 1830, and when twenty-two years of age came to America. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bay settled in Chicago, where they still live and are among the oldest residents. Mr. Bay was in the grocery business for a number of years, but in 1873 engaged in the banking business in partnership with Andrew Peterson. In 1893 the bank was incorporated and is now the Western Bank of Chicago. Mr. Bay retired from his connection with the bank as President two years ago (1901). He is a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Englewood Commandery. Mr. and

Mrs. Bay have eight children living: Clara H. Miller, the oldest, resides on a large ranch in Sprague, Washington; Alice (Bay) Blish is a resident of Englewood, now a part of Chicago; Charles Phillip Bay lives in Marshalltown, Iowa; Dr. Hiram H. Bay is a practicing physician at Nunda, McHenry County, Ill.; Etta (Bay) Anderson is a resident of San Pedro, Cal.; Henry M., Irene Jeannette and George Phillip Bay, Jr., live with their parents in the city of Chicago.

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#### PETER BURGER.

A considerable part of the elements which have contributed to the development of McHenry County is of German nationality, and the list of prominent men who, by their energy and enterprise have won a front rank in the estimation of their fellow-citizens, shows a large proportion of men whose cradles stood in the "Fatherland." The German-Americans are, as a rule, prosperous, industrious, educated, progressive in their ideas, and, as law abiding citizens, stand second to none. One of their most highly respected pioneer representatives is presented in this biographical sketch.

Peter Burger was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, near Frankfort-on-the-Main, Sept. 28, 1827, son of John and Eliza (Henry) Burger. The father, John Burger, was a farmer and owned a small piece of land in Germany, where his forefathers had lived for generations. His children were: Fred and Peter. John Burger died in his native village in 1834, and his widow married as her second husband, Ludwig Hohinstein, a butcher. Their children were: Eliza, William, John and Adam. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hohinstein died in Germany, Mrs. Hohinstein's death occurring in 1849. The family belonged to the Presbyterian church.

Peter Burger attended the common school until fourteen years of age, which is the full requirement of the National law of Germany. He thus received a good elementary education and then learned the trade of a weaver in Hemboch, his native village. He came to America at twenty-four years of age, sailing from Antwerp, July 17, 1851, in the sailing vessel "Richard Alsop," being thirty-six days on the voyage. He arrived in New York City, August 19, where he worked two months for a

butcher and on October 29, 1851, removed to Middleport, Lake County, Ill. Making the trip from New York to Middleport, he came via Buffalo, crossing Lake Erie to Toledo, and thence by rail to Chicago. He walked from Middleport to Grant Township, Lake County, and there engaged in cutting wood for a farmer until the spring of 1852. The three years following were spent as a farm-hand in McHenry County. Then, returning to Lake County, he bought a farm of 120 acres in Grant Township, on which there was a log house and other slight improvements. Mr. Burger improved this farm in many ways and made it his home until 1864, when he came to Hebron Township, McHenry County, March 1, and there purchased a farm of 180 acres. Here he made his home and by hard work and the assistance of his industrious wife, accumulated an estate of 405 acres of land on which he erected substantial farm buildings.

In Greenwood Township, he married Eliza Fenkernagel, born in Hesse Darmstadt, June 27, 1831, the daughter of Henry and Gertrude (Siting) Fenkernagel.

Her father was a tailor and his children were: Carl, Mary, Katie, Emma, Eliza, John and Henry. Mr. Fenkernagel died in Germany at the age of sixty-two years. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and a citizen of sterling worth.

Mr. Burger and Eliza Fenkernagel, being residents of adjoining villages, became acquainted in Germany. Her sister Emma married George Hohinstein and came to America in 1852, settling in Greenwood Township. In 1853 Eliza Fenkernagel came to this country and soon afterwards married Mr. Burger. Mr. and Mrs. Burger are the parents of six children: John Henry, William H., George, Louis (died after marriage, aged thirty-four years), Janie and Edward C. Mr. Burger was long a respected citizen of Hebron Township, always an advocate of public improvements and good schools. He held the office of School Director for several years and afterwards that of Road Commissioner. Mr. and Mrs. Burger are members of the Methodist church of Woodstock. They moved to Woodstock in 1890, bought a pleasant residence property there and gave all of their children a good education, assisting them to start in life. Prof. H. Burger, one of their sons, is a graduate of the State Normal

School, and is now Principal of the graded school of North Aurora.

The whole career of Mr. Burger furnishes a splendid example of the success which may be achieved by strict attention to duty, sterling integrity and perseverance. By his own efforts he has won success and is today one of the respected citizens of McHenry County, enjoying the fruits of his hard labor with the consciousness of having lived an upright, honorable and successful life.

#### COLBY FAMILY HISTORY.

The origin of the Colby family in America dates from the arrival of the Mayflower at Plymouth, in 1620, though their remote progenitors were undoubtedly of Danish stock. The name in Danish, spelled "Koldby," means a cold town with a northeast exposure to the North Sea. Some of the early Koldbys came with the Danish invaders from their native Denmark to East Anglia, where there are several villages bearing the name. The first records of the family are found in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, and the Norfolk shore is believed to have been overrun by the Danes even before the days of Julius Caesar, as well as at a later date. That the Norfolk English are largely descendants of the old Danish seakings, is evidenced by the type of their features, as well as the prevalence of Danish words in their speech. A township on the Danish peninsula named Koldby was, without doubt, the birthplace of the name. While these facts leave no doubt of the origin of the family, by intermarriage of its later generations with Britons, Saxons and Normans, and, at a still later period, with English emigrants and their descendants in New England, there has been a large infusion into their veins of Anglo-Saxon blood, which has now become predominant. Colby village, with five other parishes constituting Ingworth Manor, some twenty miles north of Norwich, England, in ancient times was a homestead village belonging to the town of Cranston. It was held as royal property by Prince Harold in the eleventh century, and remained in possession of the crown until 1226, when, by grant of Henry III. through Herbert de Burgh, it was transferred to William de Burgh. In 1119 half of the town was held by Robert Colebi and two of his brothers, and



their names are the first of the ancient Colby family now known to exist on the records. From this Robert Colby, through a long lineage, the American family is descended. The crusades against the Saracens in the Holy Land were at their height in the time of Robert de Colebi, and the coat of arms and crest of the Colby family are believed to indicate the part which they took in those events. The following description is taken from the "Heralds' Book of England:" "Colby coat of arms, 1370—A blue ground with roof between three shells of gold, within a border of gold, scalloped." On the crest above the shield was painted a crown or helmet to denote the bearer's rank, and above this some additional family emblem. The Colby crest is described as follows: "An arm in armor bent, in its proper color, trimmed with gold, holding in a gauntlet, sword hilted of the last." Without attempting to follow farther the fortunes of the Colby family in England, it suffices to say that they were of the landed gentry, some of them holding prominent positions in the State.

Anthony Colby, the founder of the family in America, came from Beccles, in Suffolk, England, as a single man upon the Mayflower in 1620, bringing with him his armor "consisting of a corselet, breast-plate, gauntlet, gorget, two, tassels, head-piece, a skull-cap with brim varnished black, with close head-piece." He also had a long ponderous musket, which is supposed to have been of the flint-lock variety, which had but recently superseded the matchlock. The fare for crossing the ocean was four pounds each, and this is regarded as evidence that he belonged to the gentry. He married in America a woman named Susannah, whose family name is not recorded, although there is tradition that it was Nutting. He became a member of the First Church in Boston, and here his son John was baptized in 1633. He became a resident of Cambridge, where he had a farm and took the oath of a freeman in 1634; is also said to have lived in Rowley and Ipswich some years, but in 1640 went to Salisbury in Essex County, where he was appointed appraiser for the Government the same year. After remaining at Salisbury about seven years, he located in the wilderness of the Powwow, a tributary of the Merrimac, and was one of the founders of Amesbury, Mass. This is believed to have

been about 1647, as that year he sold his house and lot at Salisbury, where he had lived seven years. At Amesbury he built a frame house, which is still standing and occupied by his descendants. This is described as a two-story structure about 20 by 25 feet square, the lower story consisting of one room with entry and huge fire-place, used as living-room, work-shop and sometimes as sleeping-room, and having benches at the side of the fire-place where, on winter evenings, the women and children worked and played, while the men used the room as a work-shop, receiving their light from a pine-knot stuck in the back of the fire-place. The attic was divided by board-partitions into sleeping rooms. Anthony Colby became one of the largest property holders in the town, planted large orchards, cultivated gardens and raised cattle. In 1651 he and Philip Challis were chosen at town meeting to take charge of the affairs of the town. He died in Amesbury in 1661, aged between sixty-five and seventy years, and was buried in the old graveyard called "Golgotha," on the west bank of the Powwow River.

The children of Anthony and Susannah Colby, constituting the second generation in America, were: John, born in Boston, lived at Amesbury, married Frances Hoyt, and was killed by Indians one-half mile from his home, in 1675; Samuel, born at Rowley, lived at Haverhill and Rowley, and married Elizabeth Sargent; Isaac, born at Salisbury, lived at Haverhill, and died at Rowley before 1691; Thomas, born at Salisbury and married Hannah Amos; Mary, married Willi Sargent, Jr.; Rebecca, married John Williams, and lived and died in Haverhill; Sarah, married Orland Bagley.

From Samuel Colby, born at Rowley in 1639, and who married Elizabeth Sargent, the daughter of Willi Sargent, Sr., was descended the third generation of the American branch of this family. He became a freeman (or townsman) on reaching his majority in 1660, was administrator of his mother's estate, settled in East Haverhill, but later returned to Amesbury; in 1689, was chosen Representative in the General Court and assessor in 1696; was tithing-man several years, resigning in 1707. In 1678 he was selected to keep the public house at Bartlett's Corners near his mother's home and probably



remained there until his death in 1715. The reputation of his inn was well maintained by his widow and descendants long afterwards. He and his nephew, John Chase, were soldiers during the "King Philip's War" in 1676; were present at the famous Deerfield massacre and in what was known as the "Falls fight," when a party of troops returning to Hadley were ambushed by Indians in a ravine, and their commander, Capt. Turner, with forty of his party, shot down at a single volley. John Chase and Samuel Colby assisted in burying their leader. By order of the court a township of land near the scene of the battle was given to each of the participants.

The children of Samuel and Elizabeth (Sargent) Colby were: Susannah, John, Philip, Dorothy and Eliza. Of this generation, the fourth in line of descent from Anthony Colby. Philip Colby, born in 1678, married Ann Webster, and they had children named as follows: Ichabod, born at West Amesbury, Philip, Nicholas, Stephen and Samuel. Ichabod, of this family and of the fifth generation in America, married Esther Nichols in 1754, and he, and later his widow, for a long time kept the inn at Bartlett's Corners, Amesbury. Their children were: Nicholas, Jane, Anna, Esther, Martha and Thomas. The last-named, next in line of descent, lived in Haverhill, and had the following named children: Ichabod, Thomas, William, Mary, Sarah and Hannah. Thomas of the last mentioned family, was born at Newburyport, Mass., in 1757, became a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and took part under Washington in the battle of Yorktown and was present at Cornwallis' surrender; also was present at the execution of Major Andre. He married Lydia Webster, a near relative of Daniel Webster, and removing to Danville, Vt., opened up a fine farm there and spent there the remainder of his life, dying at the age of about eighty-four years. He was one of the founders of the "North Star," the first newspaper published at Danville. The children of Thomas and Lydia (Webster) Colby were: Page, Susan, John, Gideon, Mary, Mariah, Sarah, Ira and Sylvia.

Ira Colby, of the last mentioned family, was born at Danville, Caledonia County, Vt., Dec. 27, 1803, and married in his native State Mary G. Stocker, who was born at Danville, and was of Scotch descent. In 1840 he removed with

his family to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey by railroad to Burlington, Vt., across Lake Champlain by steamer, from Whitehall to Buffalo by the Erie Canal and thence by the lakes to Chicago, where he was met by his brother Gideon and transported with his effects by two-horse-teams to McHenry where they arrived Sept. 25, the journey from Chicago to their final destination occupying two days. During the first winter Mr. Colby and his family lived in a log-house which had been formerly occupied by Chauncey Beckwith, but later settled one-half mile northwest of McHenry, where he bought 240 acres, of which twenty acres had been broken by the plow. The following winter he built a frame house out of oak lumber which had been sawed in the mill at McHenry. This house was covered with shingles rived out of logs. Deer, wolves and other wild animals were abundant in the vicinity, as many as one hundred of the former being sometimes seen not far from the Colby home. During the first winter Mr. Colby and his sons caught seven wolves and five foxes in traps which they had brought with them from Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Colby and their children were members of the Methodist church, and the first Methodist prayer-meeting in McHenry was held in their home. Freeman Harvey was their class-leader. Politically Mr. Colby was originally an old-line Whig and later a Lincoln Republican; was elected Justice of the Peace soon after coming to McHenry County, serving twenty-three years; also served sometime as collector and was a member of the School Board and treasurer of the same for several years. He was an industrious citizen and noted for his kindness of heart and integrity of character. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Colby were: Newell S., born Oct. 13, 1826; Mary M., who died in April, 1848; Abbie S., born July 15, 1831; Sarah M., born in 1833; Franklin, born Jan. 5, 1835, died in Dec. 1867; Ora C. and Flora (twins), born Dec. 8, 1837; John B., born April 13, 1840; Gideon A., born Dec. 7, 1843, died in October, 1886; Henry C., born Sept. 6, 1846; William M., born Sept. 9, 1852, died Feb. 20, 1876.

Mrs. Colby died on the home farm, Nov. 29, 1859, aged fifty-four years, and Mr. Colby at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Sherburn, July 11, 1886, at the venerable age of nearly eighty-three years, leaving to his descendants the rich



*Newell S. Colby*





memory which attaches to an upright and honorable private life devoted to the welfare of his family and the public good.

#### NEWELL S. COLBY.

Newell S. Colby, farmer and stock-breeder, McHenry, Ill., was born at Danville, Vt., Oct 13, 1826, and in 1840, when fourteen years of age, came with his father to McHenry. During the winter of 1841-2 he attended a school taught by Archelaus Sias in the north end of what was known as "Brown's Log-Cabin Tavern." This was the first public school ever taught in McHenry, although Elder Wheeler had taught a private boarding school at a previous date. Sias was the son of a Methodist minister at Danville, Vt., and had come west with the family of Ira Colby for the purpose of selling the "Sias Improved Family Medicines" prepared by his father. The younger Sias sold these medicines to the pioneer settlers for some time, after which he engaged in the mercantile business at McHenry, but finally went, in company with Dr. Brown of McHenry, to California, where he died. A number of pupils who attended his school are still living in McHenry County. Still later Newell S. Colby attended various schools until twenty-one years of age, including one taught by Enos W. Smith in the building where the Colby block now stands. Mr. Colby remained at the parental home until thirty years of age, when, on Oct. 9, 1856, he was united in marriage at Greenwood, McHenry County, to Laura Etta Parker, born at Lyons, Oakland County, Mich., the daughter of Joseph J. and Mary (Curlis) Parker. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Colby settled on an 80-acre tract of unimproved land, which he had bought from his father's estate, and which now constitutes a part of his home farm. He added to this land by purchase and by thrifty management, until he owned a large property, but has since disposed of a considerable portion of his real estate, although now the owner of a handsome and well-improved farm of 168 acres.

Mr. Colby early became interested in breeding fine stock, and, while a young man, became the owner of a blooded stallion bred in Caledonia County, Vt., and known as "Colby's Young Morrill," for which he had paid \$500 when the animal was three years old. Still

later he was the first to introduce the Morgan breed of horses in Northern Illinois, devoting his time largely to this branch of business and, in the last forty-five years, many of this popular breed of horses have been sent from his farm to all parts of the United States. In fact, the pedigree of many famous horses of the Morgan breed has been traced to this stock. In 1857 he added to his business that of breeding merino sheep, and has been one of the most successful breeders in this line, his stock coming from the best Vermont flocks.

In political principles Mr. Colby has been an earnest Republican of the Abraham Lincoln school since the organization of the party, and both he and his wife are Methodists in religious belief. They have had the following named children: Mary Laura, born Aug. 4, 1858, died when about one year of age; Emma May, born June 12, 1860, and married Edward Saylor; Belle C., born June 26, 1865, married W. A. Saylor; Newell Frank, born Aug. 9, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Saylor have seven daughters, viz.: Mabel, Laura M., Edna, Pearl, Evelyn, Florence, and Olive. Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Saylor have two children; James N., and Frank W.

Newell F., the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Newell S. Colby's family, born on the home farm, Aug. 9, 1877, received a good common-school education, after which he attended the high school at McHenry. He has spent his life on the farm of which he has been the manager for a number of years. Sept. 4, 1900, he was married to Agnes Thomas of McHenry, who was born in Greenwood, March 28, 1882, the daughter of Julian and Lucy (Hobart) Thomas, and they have one daughter, Florence, and a son, Ora Newell. Julian Thomas, the father of Mrs. Newell F. Colby, was a soldier in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry during the Civil War, serving three years and participating in a number of important battles. He was promoted for meritorious conduct.

Mr. and Mrs. Newell S. Colby have liberally assisted their children in acquiring an education and in entering upon life for themselves. They also brought up from boyhood, Edwin Warner, to whom they have gave a good education and a home until he reached maturity, when they presented him with a Morgan horse (which he sold to the "Dundee Morgan Horse Company" for \$500), besides other property.

The "Dundee Horse Company" was later offered \$3,500 for this horse.

Mrs. Newell S. Colby is a lady of much artistic taste, which she has cultivated with great industry and perseverance, turning out some rare specimens of fancy work of different varieties. These include imitation fruits in wax-work, which it is almost impossible to distinguish from the real article from appearance, hair-work indicative of great ingenuity and skill, and many specimens of needle-work embroidery of intricate patterns and of rare beauty and elegance. She still continues her work in this line in which she takes great pleasure.

JOSEPH J. PARKER, the father of Mrs. Newell S. Colby, was born at East Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y., July 6, 1811, the son of James and Sarah (Barrett) Parker. His father was a native of Ontario County, N. Y., and he and two of his brothers, served as soldiers in the Revolutionary War, one of them losing his life in the struggle for Independence. Both the Parker and the Barrett families were of English-Puritan ancestry, whose founders in America became early settlers in the New England Colonies. James Parker was a pioneer settler in New York State, where he was the owner of a large farm which he divided among his children, and where he died aged about sixty-six years. His wife lived to the age of ninety-seven years and finally died at the old homestead without having suffered a day's serious illness during her long life. She had gained her "second sight" and, in her later years, was able to read without glasses. On the day of her death she appeared to be in her ordinary state of health and, after attending to some light household duties, retired to her room, where her life went out as naturally as a candle expiring in the socket the fact that the crisis had come being unknown until sometime after. The children of James and Sarah (Barrett) Parker were: Eleazer, Eveline, David, Clara, Alvin, Almira, Silas, Collins, Benjamin, James, Joseph J. and Sarah Ann. Joseph J. received a common-school education, became a farmer and, on Jan. 27, 1833, married at East Bloomfield, N. Y., Mary Curlis, who was a native of Canandaigua County, N. Y., born May 18, 1811. The Curlis family were of Canadian origin, the mother, Mrs. Mary Curlis, before marriage being a Miss Acres. Her

husband, Mr. Curlis, having died about 1815, she married a second time and had one son. Having learned that the Curlis branch of her family had a claim upon valuable property in Canada, she started for that country with a view to enforcing her family rights, taking her son with her, but was never seen or heard of after disappearing at a turn in the road, where she was last seen by some of her friends who were watching her as she departed on her journey.

Soon after the marriage in May, 1833, Joseph J. Parker removed to Michigan, then a territory, and settled in the town of Lyons, where he entered 160 acres, and, clearing it of the heavy timber with which it was encumbered, opened up a farm. He added to his land until he was the owner of 200 acres and became a well-to-do farmer. In 1854 he made another removal, this time to McHenry County, Ill., where he settled on a farm consisting of 234 acres of partly improved land with good buildings, one mile north of Greenwood. He lived here until his death, which occurred Oct. 15, 1884. His wife died Feb. 8, 1879. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Parker—all born at Lyons, Mich.—were: James Elliot, born Jan. 27, 1834; Joseph Collins, born June 14, 1835; Ann Elizabeth, born May 11, 1837; Laura Etta (Mrs. Colby), born Nov. 22, 1838; Benjamin Allen, born May 5, 1840; Sarah Alice, born Sept. 1, 1843; David Hide, born Oct. 4, 1845; George Curlis, born June 21, 1848; Martha Alziah, born Aug. 31, 1851. All are deceased except Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Wheeler, now of Minneapolis, Minn., and Mrs. Colby. The son, Benjamin Allen Parker, served as a soldier for three years during the Civil War, participating in the Vicksburg campaign, and his life was shortened by exposure during his service in the field.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Parker were members of the Methodist church at the time of their marriage, but after their removal to Michigan, they united with the Baptist church. On coming to McHenry County they rejoined the Methodist church, becoming members of the church at Greenwood. In early manhood Mr. Parker studied for the ministry in his native State of New York, and for some time was a class-leader in the church. He was a Sunday School teacher many years, and, being a fine singer, often led the music in the congregations with



*Mrs. Newell S. Colby*





which he was connected. He was also a captain of the State militia during his residence in Michigan.

ORA C. COLBY.

Ora C. Colby, whose name heads this sketch, was born at Danville, Vt., Dec. 8, 1837, and in his third year was brought by his parents to McHenry County, Ill. Here he received the education common in the public schools of that time. While still young he became afflicted with a hip disease, causing permanent lameness which naturally interfered with his prospects in active life. Possessing a natural aptitude for business, however, he early began to trade in various ways, and when he had reached the age of twenty-one years, accepted a clerkship in the drug-store of Oliver Owen, a pioneer druggist and watch-maker of McHenry. He remained here about two years, when he bought out his employer, continuing in the drug trade until 1867, when, having transferred his stock to his brother Henry, he removed to Saybrook, McLean County, Ill., and engaged in the drug business there, remaining about four years. In the meantime he had added to his business that of a grocery store at Gibson City, Ill., but sold this out in 1873 and removed to Neosho, Missouri, where, in company with his younger brother, William M., he bought out the business of James H. Beckham. He remained at Neosho three years, when he took a new departure, this time to Granby, Mo., but a year later (1877) returned to his old home at McHenry and re-entered business in connection with his brother Henry. A dry goods and general mercantile business was soon added, and, in 1879, a similar business was established at Nunda. Two years later the partnership with his brother was dissolved, Mr. Ora C. Colby assuming entire control of the establishment at Nunda. In 1892 he erected at Nunda a substantial and commodious brick building especially well adapted to the mercantile business, and which is, regarded as a credit to the town. For some years he has been doing the largest mercantile business in the place. In 1885 he purchased a dry-goods store at Lake Geneva, in which he still retains an interest, and is also interested in a similar establishment at Mason City, Iowa. He now

ranks as one of the successful and prosperous business men of the county, of which he has so long been a resident. Besides his mercantile interests, he is the owner of farming lands in Missouri and Nebraska, as well as other real estate. Mr. Colby was married at Wilmot, Wis., June 12, 1864, to Emma E. Colby, the daughter of Webster and Abbie (Smith) Colby, and a native of McHenry Township. Webster Colby, the father of Mrs. Colby, died on the Gulf of Mexico while on his way home from the gold fields of California. Mr. and Mrs. Colby are the parents of the following named children: Bert W., born June 21, 1866, in McHenry; Lulu E., born Feb. 15, 1871, in Saybrook, McLean County, Ill.; Stella F., born March 21, 1877, in Marion, Ark., died Dec. 3, 1880; Carl O., born Jan. 17, 1881, in McHenry; Earl H., born Feb. 15, 1882, in McHenry; Ernest C., born May 25, 1884, in Nunda, Ill.; Addie L., born Feb. 8, 1887, in Nunda, Ill. Both Mr. and Mrs. Colby are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church—Mr. Colby being a member of the official board, and having been prominent in securing the erection of the Methodist church building at Nunda. He was one of the original Republicans of McHenry County and voted for Mr. Lincoln in 1860; is a Royal Arch Mason, and has been President of the City Board of Nunda for two terms. In spite of lameness and a rather delicate constitution, and although entering upon his business career with limited means and in a humble manner, by innate energy and enterprise, he has won for himself deserved recognition as one of the most prominent merchants of Northern Illinois. By his unaided efforts he has achieved a marked success, which has established for him a reputation for business capacity and integrity, thereby furnishing a most conspicuous example of the "self-made man."

PAGE COLBY.

Page Colby, retired farmer, and pioneer settler of McHenry County, in the steady pursuit of one main industry has achieved success and won for himself a foremost place among agriculturists of his section. Now at the age of about eighty-three years, he is enjoying a well-earned leisure on his large and attractive farm.

Mr. Colby was born in Danville, Vt., Sept. 2,

1820, the son of Page and Mary Colby. Attending the district schools of his neighborhood until he was twenty years old, he acquired a thorough rudimentary education, which he afterward supplemented by reading and intercourse with intelligent people. A wholesome respect for agriculture induced him, on reaching manhood, to make that occupation the business of his life, and to further his interests, in 1842, at the age of twenty-two years, he started for McHenry County, Ill. Lake Champlain to Whitehall, the Champlain Canal to Troy, and the Erie Canal to Buffalo, furnished a route to the lakes, where he embarked on a steamer for Detroit. From Detroit he proceeded by steam-car over an unfinished line to the terminus at Jackson, Mich., and thence by stage to St. Joseph, where he took passage on a lake steamer, finally reaching Chicago. A two days' walk over wet, muddy roads brought him to McHenry County, Nov. 8, 1840. Here he at once purchased of Ezra Harvey, for \$130 in United States gold, an unimproved 80-acre tract of land, which became the nucleus of his present farm. During the first ten months of his residence in McHenry County, he made his home with his uncle, Ira Colby. The spring of 1843 found him hard at work upon his land, and during the following summer he erected a small frame house, obtaining his lumber from Owen's Mill at McHenry.

October 11, 1843, Mr. Colby was married in McHenry Township, to Mehitabel Elizabeth Smith, who was born at Johnson, Lamoille County, Vt., March 26, 1827, the daughter of Abiah and Thankful (Griswold) Smith. Mrs. Colby has been a sympathetic and encouraging helpmeet, and of great assistance to her husband in his enterprises. They have had six children: Charles C., Mary J., George W., Ellen A. (who died Nov. 12, 1878), Ida (died June 13, 1880) and Willard E.

After his marriage Mr. Colby moved into his new farm house and began the real life of a pioneer. An expert shot with the rifle, he had no difficulty in furnishing plenty of meat for the family larder from deer and other game, and for fish he dragged the lakes and rivers with his nets, especially the Fox River, and at least once each season for twenty years, he was accustomed regularly to take out wagon-loads of fish from that stream. He cleared up more land, erected good buildings and enlarged

old ones, and extended the farm itself by additional land purchases, until it now embraces 272 acres, largely under cultivation. In his methods he has been progressive and at the same time practical, and is justly considered one of the most substantial and successful farmers in McHenry County. Aside from the management of his farm, he has found time for public service, and for two years served as Town Assessor. He has always manifested a keen interest in questions of public policy. Originally a Whig in politics, he later became a Free-Soiler, but since the formation of the Republican party, has been a zealous supporter of its principles. He is also an earnest opponent of the liquor traffic and has labored strenuously to secure its suppression.

Abiah Smith, the father of Mrs. Colby, was a native of Vermont, where he spent the earlier years of his life as a farmer. Inspired by a desire to test the advantages of the "Great West," in 1840 he set out with his family for McHenry County, Ill., making the overland journey to Burlington, Vt., by team, thence via Lake Champlain and the canals to Buffalo, where they embarked on a steamer for Chicago, and, after another two days' drive across the prairies from Chicago, reached their destination, Aug. 6, 1840. Here, during the fall after his arrival, he erected a good frame house upon the oak openings, where he settled and began felling the timber and grubbing out the underbrush. In time he cleared up a good farm and became one of the prominent agriculturists of the county. He not only won a substantial prosperity for himself, but assisted his sons on the road to fortune, giving the two eldest farms in Vermont, and his other children land in McHenry County. He and his wife, Thankful Griswold, were the parents of eight children, all of whom were born in Vermont, viz.: Aaron, Abiah, Samuel, Willard, Hawley, Abigail, Harriet and Harrison.

Mr. Smith was energetic, far-sighted and persevering as a business man, and by his straightforward character commanded respect where he was best known. In religious sentiment he was a Universalist. He died on his farm in McHenry County at the age of about seventy-three years. Mrs. Page Colby died at her home, June 7, 1902.

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## ALBERT H. COLBY.

Albert H. Colby is a member of a pioneer family who settled in McHenry County, Ill., at an early day and soon took rank among its substantial citizens. The founder of the family (Thomas Colby) was of English and Puritan ancestry, who settled in Vermont during the colonial period. Gideon Colby, Albert's father, was born in Caledonia County in the "Green Mountain State," opened a farm in the woods and was married to Olive Marsh at Danville, Vt., remaining there until 1837, when he removed to Illinois, bringing with him his family consisting of his wife and four children—the latter named Webster, Allen, Mary and Albert H. His family and effects were brought in two wagons, the journey between Chicago and McHenry (which became their first home) requiring five days on account of the almost impassable condition of the country covered with sloughs and practically without roads. The purpose of Mr. Colby was to proceed to the Rock River, but by the time he reached McHenry his teams were so worn out that he was obliged to stop. McHenry then consisted of a few log houses, one occupied by a Mr. B. B. Brown, whose family were still in New York, while another belonged to Henry McLean, who had gone away to be married. Brown was keeping a frontier tavern, and some twenty-five young men who had located claims in the vicinity were boarding with him. They spent much of their time hunting and fishing and kept Brown's table well supplied with game. Brown prevailed upon Colby to take the house and keep it as a tavern during the following winter. It was about 16x20 feet, with a "lean-to" of nearly the same size which, in after years, was used as a barroom, although Mr. Colby sold no liquors there. A loft over the principal cabin, reached by a ladder, served as a bed-room for the guests. A Mr. McCollum, a Scotchman, came to McHenry about the same time the Colbys did, but afterwards removed to Milwaukee. Mr. Colby remained here from October, 1837, to the next April, when, having bought the claim of Henry McLean consisting of 360 acres on the west bank of Fox River, he built a house of rough logs covered with "shakes" or clap-boards. Attached to it was a "lean-to," similar to the house he had occupied as a tavern at McHenry. It had a stick chimney covered with mortar made from the native

clay, with a fire-place six feet wide and with a depth sufficient to receive a huge back-log requiring two men to handle it. At this time Mr. Colby was compelled to go to Elgin, 30 miles distant, for supplies, paying one dollar per bushel for potatoes which had been brought up Fox River by boat. He bought the 360 acres of land upon which he had settled, paying the Government \$1.25 per acre for it. Here he prospered and became one of the influential citizens of McHenry County, which was then going through the process of organization under the law enacted by the Legislature in 1836. He was an old line Whig in politics and a Universalist in religious belief. His death occurred in the fall of 1842 at the age of 46 years.

Albert H. Colby, whose name heads this article, was born at Danville, Vt., June 4, 1830, and came with his parents to Illinois in 1837 as described in the previous paragraph. He has a vivid recollection of the journey from Chicago to McHenry, when their camp at night was not unfrequently surrounded by howling wolves. On the way they met a number of Indians belonging to hunting parties camping along Fox River. They had their squaws, children and ponies with them and were friendly. Having no white playmates, Mr. Colby was accustomed frequently to play with these Indian children. He well remembers a powerful Sioux Chief, who wore several dried scalps of white women dangling at his belt, which he claimed he had taken in the old French War.

In the winter of 1840, Mr. Colby attended his first private school in McHenry, taught by Elder Wheeler, a Baptist minister. Among others who attended this school were Francis and James Wheeler, Franklin Bosworth and Homer Brown. The text-books used included "Daboll's Arithmetic" and "Webster's Elementary Speller." Later he attended school in a log school-house taught by a Miss McOmber.

April 27, 1855, Mr. Colby was married at McHenry to Abigail (Smith) Colby, a widow, daughter of Abiah and Thankful (Griswold) Smith, born at Johnson, Vt. Her father was a native of Vermont, where he had opened a farm and made himself a good home, but removed to McHenry County, Ill., in 1840, making the journey to Burlington, Vt., by teams, thence across Lake Champlain by steamer and, after reaching Buffalo, by way of the lakes to Chicago. The journey from Chicago to McHenry by

teams occupied two days. There were ten children of the Smith family: Aaron, Abiah, Samuel, Willard, Hawley, Abigail, Mehitabel, Almira, Harriet and Harrison. Of these, six accompanied their parents to Illinois, the others coming later and settling in McHenry County. Mr. Smith had come west during 1839 and entered some 500 acres of land, leaving his son Willard to build a cabin. He opened up a large farm and assisted his children to get a start in life, as he had already assisted two of them to farms in Vermont. He was a Universalist in religion, an influential citizen and died highly respected at seventy-three years of age.

Mrs. Colby, by her first marriage, became the wife of Webster Colby, an older brother of Mr. Albert Colby. Four children were born of this marriage: Emma, Edgar, Smith and Clarence. Webster Colby crossed the plains to California in 1849, returning in November of the same year by way of the Isthmus and the Gulf of Mexico, but died on the steamer before its arrival at New Orleans.

After the marriage of Albert Colby to his widowed sister-in-law in 1855, he removed to Buchanan County, Iowa, where he purchased 1,000 acres of land, but four years later sold out and purchased a planing-mill and sash factory at Waukegan, Ill., which he conducted two years. He then returned to McHenry County, settling at Nunda, where he purchased 300 acres of land and erected a pleasant residence, which he now occupies. He has three children: Minnie, Lillian and Frederick. An original Republican and supporter of John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln, of late years he has co-operated with the Prohibition party. By industry, frugality and good management he has attained a decided success in business life and is recognized as one of the substantial and influential citizens of McHenry County.

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#### ALLEN P. COLBY.

Among the pioneers of McHenry County, Ill., none have occupied a more prominent position than the Colby family. From Gideon, the second son and fourth child of Thomas and Lydia (Webster) Colby our subject is descended. Gideon was a native of New Hampshire, born May 10, 1797, and removed with his parents in

boyhood to Danville, Vt. Following the example of his father, he adopted the vocation of a farmer, to which he added that of a cattle-buyer and drover, dealing in the Boston market. He was married at Danville, to Olive Marsh, a native of Danvers, Mass., born in 1793, and the daughter of John and Rhoda (Putnam) Marsh—her mother being related to Gen. Israel Putnam of Revolutionary fame. John Marsh, the father, served in the navy during the Revolutionary War. Gideon Colby settled after his marriage at Danville, where he bought a farm; was also a soldier in the War of 1812, serving in the Vermont militia and participated in the battle of Plattsburg. His children include Webster M., born in August, 1820; Allen P., born June 25, 1822; Mary M., born in June, 1826, and Albert Henry, born June 4, 1830.

In August, 1837, Mr. Colby bade farewell to the old Vermont home, and started to Illinois, transporting his family and effects across the States of Ohio and Indiana in one two-horse and one three-horse covered wagon. Mr. Colby drove the three-horse wagon, and passing through Chicago, then a small hamlet, proceeded through the water which covered the surface for the entire distance from the site of the present city to the sand ridge upon which the town of Jefferson Park, now within the city limits, stands. The emigrants were compelled to cut their way through the forest and undergrowth around Lilly Lake on the western border of Lake County, arriving at the village of McHenry in October, after a journey which occupied nearly six weeks. The village at that time consisted of half-a-dozen log-cabins—one occupied by B. B. Brown as a tavern; one by Dr. C. G. Wheeler, who was a Baptist minister as well as a physician, and the third belonging to Henry McLean, an unmarried man, who was absent at the time. Although a married man, Brown's family was still in New York, while Dr. Wheeler's family was with him, having settled there a short time before the arrival of the Colbys. Mr. Colby hired the Brown cabin and kept it as a tavern during the following winter. Two other families—those of Daniel Owen and Squire John McOmber—lived on the opposite side of the creek. In the spring of 1838 Mr. Colby settled on a claim of 320 acres of "oak openings" north of the present town limits. Here he built his pioneer home, and opened



and improved his farm, dying there in September, 1843, at the age of forty-six years. In religious belief he and his wife were Universalists. The latter survived until 1893, dying at the home of her daughter (Mrs. Smith) at Minneapolis, Minn., at the age of ninety-nine years and three months.

Allen P. Colby, the immediate subject of this sketch and second son of Gideon Colby, the Vermont pioneer, was born at Danville, Vt., June 25, 1822, and came to Illinois with his parents in 1837. Being then only fifteen years of age, his opportunities for acquiring an education in a new country were limited to attendance on winter schools in McHenry County for three winters. The first school attended by him was taught by Archelaus Sias, the son of a Vermont minister, in the log-cabin of B. B. Brown, which had been used for a tavern. Among others attending this school were Webster, Alfred and Mary Colby, Henry and John McOmber, Fred Bryant, Atrus McCullum and Henry Brown. Although hampered as to educational advantages, Mr. Colby's retentive memory enabled him to acquire a large fund of facts and reminiscences in connection with the early history of that region, which are invaluable to the local historian. He assisted his father to clear and improve the homestead, and when the latter died in 1843, he assumed charge of the family and became administrator of the estate. He was married in October, 1844, to Caroline M. Smith, who was born at Johnson, Vt., June 8, 1827, the daughter of John W. and Clarissa (Clemmens) Smith. His wife's father was a pioneer of McHenry County, having settled there in 1844. After his marriage, Mr. Colby settled in the old homestead, but, about 1850, removed to the vicinity of Ringwood, McHenry County, where he had purchased 160 acres of prairie and timber land. Having partly improved this tract, he sold it in 1854, and removed to his present location. Here he became the owner of 230 acres (partly improved), completed the improvements and erected substantial farm buildings. Of this tract he retains 140 acres, having transferred the remainder to his children. Mrs. Colby died May 19, 1856, leaving four children—Emma, Luella, Wallace and Clarissa. On Oct. 11, 1857, he was married a second time to Emily Jane Sanborn, at Danville, Vt., born Jan. 12, 1835, the daughter of Joel R. and Charlotte

(Haviland) Sanborn. Mr. Haviland, the bride's grandfather, was a soldier of the War of 1812, while her father (Joel Sanborn) was of English descent but of early Puritan and colonial stock—being the son of Jonathan and Martha (or "Patty" Watson) Sanborn of Vermont. Joel Sanborn was a farmer, who had cleared up and opened a farm in the woods of that State. The children of the Sanborn family were: Catherine, Warren W., Emily J. (the wife of Mr Colby), Gardner J., Mary A., Martin S., and Charlotte H. Mr. Sanborn died on his farm in Vermont, and his wife at Danville, in the same State, having reached the age of about eighty years.

As the result of his second marriage Mr. and Mrs. Colby are the parents of three children: Caroline Eva, Charlotte Anna and Cora Augusta. In religious faith he is a Universalist and assisted to build the Universalist church at McHenry. Politically he was an old line and anti-slavery Whig, but supported John P. Hale for President in 1852, becoming a Republican on the organization of that party, and a supporter of Fremont and Lincoln in 1856 and 1860. He is regarded as one of the most reliable and substantial citizens of McHenry County. The public positions held by him include those of Road Commissioner (for thirty years), member of the School Board and Deputy Sheriff for four years under the administration of Christopher Walkup, the first Sheriff of McHenry County.

#### THE COLE FAMILY.

The Puritan settlers of the New England colonies had no conception of the vast extent of our country, and many of their descendants, although not prompted by religious persecution, endured semi-privations to found a new empire in the great western world, in a territory that the most sanguine of the pilgrim fathers never dreamed would ever be inhabited by civilized men. Many of the early settlers of Illinois were natives of New England. In their advent to the West they retained their habits of industry, economy and integrity, which they had formed in the early period.

The ancestry of the Cole family may be traced through the Puritan New England branch to Scotland and Ireland, and as early as 1696, the name is found in the annals of Ameri-



can colonization. The following, though fragmentary, gives some trace of its early history:

"John Cole, of Lynn, Mass., was a cooper by trade and married to Sarah ———. Their children were: Samuel, born Dec. 27, 1687, and Anna, born Aug. 5, 1690. In 1717 Samuel came to Boxford, Mass., with his father and, for £110, purchased of Ebenezer Burbank a farm (the estate of the late Manley H. Cole, in West Parish), on which his posterity have resided until within a few years. This was the tract of land laid out to Thomas Seaver in 1666. John Cole, the father, died very suddenly in 1737, aged sixty-eight years. Samuel died in 1765, and his widow, Susannah, in 1785, being then ninety-five years of age. Samuel's children were: Samuel, Jr., John, Rebecca, Susannah and Mary. John Cole moved to Amherst, N. H., about 1763."

The foregoing extract from the History of Boxford, Mass., contains some ancestral information up to the time that John Cole and his son, Samuel, moved to Boxford, in 1717, which may be briefly summarized as follows: First generation was John Cole, a cooper. Second generation, Samuel, his son. Third generation, another Samuel who had a family of several children, one of whom (John) moved to Amherst, N. H., about 1763, where he settled and spent his life. He raised a family of four sons and seven daughters named as follows: John, who was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill: Asa, Tyler, Nathan, Priscilla, Abigail, Hannah, Sally, Susannah, May, and one whose name is not remembered. Fourth generation, John, the father of Nathan Cole and the grandfather of Miles Flint Cole, who was the head of the family that settled in McHenry County, Ill. Fifth generation, Nathan Cole, who lived in Amherst, N. H., until after the birth of all of his children, when he moved to Antrim in the same State, and afterwards, about 1809, moved to New Chester. He was born in Boxford, Mass., in 1758, died in Danbury, N. H., June 20, 1833, and was buried at Hill Center beside his wife. His wife, Mollie (Flint) Cole, was born in Danvers, Mass., Jan. 10, 1755, and died in New Chester, N. H., Aug. 20, 1823. Nathan and Molly (Flint) Cole were the parents of nine children, all of whom lived to grow up to be men and women, and were named as follows in the order of their birth: Polly, born July 25, 1775; John, born Jan. 23, 1777; Nathan, born October, 1778; Betsy, born Aug. 3, 1780; Levi; Miles F., born March 16, 1785, died July 22, 1859; Susanna; Jehat; Lucy, born in 1791.

Sally (Bixby) Cole, wife of Miles F. Cole, was born Oct. 3, 1795, and died Oct. 27, 1863.

#### MILES H. COLE.

Miles H. Cole, who is one of the substantial pioneer citizens of McHenry County, belongs to the army of intelligent, persevering and courageous people, whose parents came from the East to build up new homes on the broad plains of the West. He is naturally a public-spirited man and all movements of a public character, tending to promote the welfare of the place of his adoption, have as a rule received his countenance and assistance.

The Coles are of sterling Scotch-Irish ancestry who were early settlers of New England. The founders of the family were among the English Puritans of the old Massachusetts Colony at Amesbury, Mass.

Nathan Cole, the grandfather of Miles H., was a blacksmith and resided in Andover, N. H., where he died about seventy-five or eighty years of age. His children were: Nathan, John, Jediah, Miles, Levi, Betsy, Susan and Lucy. His oldest son Nathan Cole, Jr., moved to Columbus, Ohio, in the early days of the settlement of that town and became a prominent citizen.

Miles Flint Cole, the father of Miles H., was born in Amherst, Mass. He received a common school education, followed the occupation of a farmer, and married Sallie Bixby, a native of New Hampshire, the daughter of John and ——— (Goodale) Bixby. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Cole settled on his farm in the town of Hill, N. H. After living here four years they removed to Andover in the same State, where Mr. Cole purchased a farm which was their residence for ten years following. In 1838 Mr. Cole came to Illinois, making the journey with team and wagon to Burton Township, McHenry County, where he bought a claim of an Englishman named William Foles. He then returned to New Hampshire and the same year brought his family to Illinois, leaving Andover, Sept. 10, 1838. Mr. Cole and his family were seven weeks on the road and his outfit consisted of two covered wagons and six horses. During the journey they occasionally stopped over night in the houses of friendly settlers, but often slept in a tent which they



*Mr H Cole*







Mrs L E Cole



brought with them for use in case of necessity. They arrived in Burton Township in the early days of November, 1838. Mr. and Mrs. Cole's children were: Mandana, Miles H., Martha L., John H., Franklin M. and Ransom B., all of whom were born in New Hampshire and accompanied their parents to Illinois. Jonathan Kimball and family came with the Coles to Illinois, in a covered wagon drawn by four horses. Mr. Kimball's mother-in-law, Nancy Gay, an aged lady eighty-two years old, accompanied the Kimball family and rode in Mr. Cole's spring wagon, which was then considered a model vehicle for ease and comfort in travel.

Mr. Cole settled on land in Burton Township. His claim had previously been improved with a log house with an oak shake roof, puncheon floor, a loft reached by a ladder and a wide fire-place with a stick chimney pointed with mud. Mr. Cole lived here until 1853 and, in the meantime, built a frame addition to the log structure and, later, a substantial frame house. He bought his land of the United States Government for \$1.25 per acre, and by industry and good management, added to it until he owned 600 acres. Mr. Cole raised the first apples on his farm that were produced in Burton Township, the orchard being originally started from seeds which he brought from New Hampshire. In political opinion Mr. Cole was first a Democrat, but afterwards became a firm believer in the principles of the Republican party. He was one of the organizers of Burton Township and was much esteemed by all who knew him. As a citizen he had the confidence and respect of those who appreciated an upright and straight-forward life, and aided materially in the development of McHenry County. Mrs. Cole was a woman of more than ordinary energy and ability. To her help and advice Mr. Cole was largely indebted for his success. Mr. and Mrs. Cole both died in Burton Township; he at the age of seventy-four, and Mrs. Cole at sixty-eight.

Miles H. Cole, the principal subject of this article, was born in Andover, N. H., April 23, 1829, and was about nine years old when he came with his parents and their family to McHenry County. When the family first settled in Burton Township, the Indians were still quite numerous in McHenry County, and Mr. Cole can well remember their frequent visits to his father's house. In

the winter of 1838 Mr. Cole attended the first school in Burton Township, which was taught by William Stearns in an old log dwelling house owned by Martin L. Huffman. Among the scholars were all the Cole children (except Ransom B.), the Wrays, Kimballs, Stillsons, and others. Mr. Cole attended school eight winters and worked on the farm during the intervening summer months. He began to work on the farm when a small boy and has made farming his life business. Feb. 18, 1858, when twenty-nine years of age, he married in Bloomfield, Wis., Caroline E. Cooley, born Nov. 8, 1834, in Long Meadow, Mass., daughter of Gideon and Caroline (Nichols) Cooley.

Gideon Cooley was twice married; first to Caroline Nichols, and they had but one child, Caroline E. Mrs. Cooley died in November, 1834, after which Mr. Cooley married her sister, Emeline Nichols. Their children were: Joseph H., William H., Everett (who died at the age of eleven years) and Mary Evelyn. Mr. Cooley was a farmer by occupation and, in 1844, removed to Illinois, coming by the way of Buffalo to Southport (now Kenosha, Wis.), and by team to Burton Township, where he settled in the autumn of 1844. He bought 240 acres of land which he improved and upon which he resided until his death in 1872, aged sixty-seven years. In political opinion he was first an old-line Whig and later became one of the early members of the Republican party. He was a substantial citizen, the son of Gideon and Dinah (Sikes) Cooley.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cole settled in Burton Township, where he purchased 330 acres of partly improved land. Mr. Cole completed the improvements of his farm and added to it until he owned about one thousand acres, and by good management and industrious habits became a well-to-do citizen. He moved to Richmond in 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Cole are the parents of Howard E., who died when thirty years of age; Miles Richard, and Grace L. In politics he is a staunch Republican, was one of the organizers of the party and voted for Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Cole has never been an office-seeker, his time being fully occupied with his own affairs. In 1853, when twenty-three years of age, he went to California via New York City and the Isthmus of Panama, and mined for gold one year in the placer mines in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, return-



ing home by way of New York. In 1897 he built an attractive residence in the village of Richmond. Mr. Cole is a man of independent views. He belongs to no secret order. He has built up a fine estate and, as a citizen of McHenry County, he is both prominent and highly esteemed. Mrs. Cole attended school in the first school house on English Prairie, which was a red frame building. The teacher was Ann Case, a sister of J. I. Case, the manufacturer of agricultural machinery at Racine, Wis.

Benjamin and Sarah Cooley were the ancestors of Mrs. Cole, in the first American generation. They were among the first settlers in that part of Springfield, called Long Meadow, and from them descended all of that name in America of whom there is any record. Of the second generation, Obadiah, son of Benjamin and Sarah Cooley, who married Rebecca Williams. Third generation, Jonathan, son of Obadiah and Rebecca (Williams) Cooley, who married Joanna Colton. Fourth generation, Stephen, son of Jonathan and Joanna (Colton) Cooley, who married Mary Field. Fifth generation, Gideon, son of Stephen and Mary (Field) Cooley, and Nov. 29, 1798, married Dinah, daughter of James and Mary Sikes, born Nov. 13, 1765. He died Nov. 21, 1838, aged seventy-six years. Their children were: Electa, born Sept. 9, 1799, and married Joseph Hixon; Quartus, born Sept. 9, 1801, and married Abigail Bliss; Gideon, the father of Mrs. Cole, born Sept. 27, 1804, and Mary, born Sept. 7, 1806.

The children of Miles H. and Caroline E. (Cooley) Cole married as follows:

Howard E. Cole, born March 1, 1859, and married Sept. 27, 1888, Ida M. Denison, born at Richmond, Ill., July 2, 1869. He died Nov. 23, 1889.

Miles R. Cole, born Dec. 10, 1865, married in Kenosha County, Wis., Dec. 1, 1898, Mary C. Shibley, M. D., born at Randall, Kenosha County, Wis., Jan. 4, 1868.

Mr. and Mrs. Miles H. Cole have been the parents of three other children, Willie, Frank and Harry, who died in infancy.

Grace L. Cole, born Dec. 8, 1867, married June 7, 1888, J. Niles Burton, a merchant of Richmond, Ill., born at New Hartford, N. Y., June 8, 1854. They have one child, Richard Cole Burton, born Jan. 30, 1897.

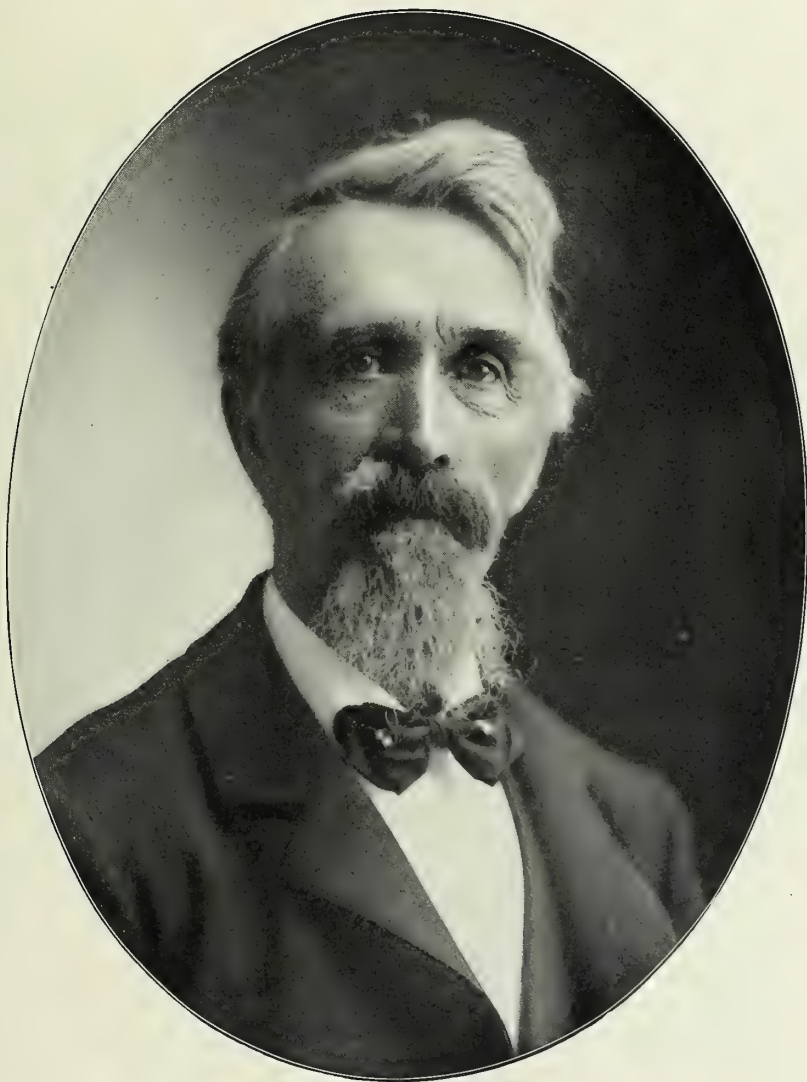
#### FRANKLIN M. COLE.

Franklin M. Cole (deceased) was one of McHenry County's most enterprising citizens and did much to aid in the development of his community. Following the occupation of a farmer, he owned one of the largest farms in Burton Township, and built one of the pleasantest and most attractive homes in McHenry County. He was a native of New Hampshire, born in East Andover, Merrimack County, that State, Jan. 4, 1835, son of Miles F. and Sallie (Bixby) Cole. He received a common-school education and from actual experience became a well-informed and practical business man. In 1838, when three and a half years of age, he came to Illinois with his parents, who made the journey from Andover, N. H., to Burton Township, McHenry County, with a team and wagon. Although very young at the time, in later life he remembered many incidents of the eventful journey, especially crossing the Miami River. He was reared among the pioneers in Burton Township, as his father settled on the farm where the Franklin Cole family now lives, and the old log house in pioneer days stood on the site of the present residence. Mr. Cole was married at the Universalist parsonage, in McHenry, March 31, 1864, by the Rev. Roberts, to Emily M. Stevens, born in Ithaca, Tompkins County, N. Y., Sept. 27, 1841, daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Dart) Stevens.

#### RANSOM B. COLE.

Among the prominent citizens of McHenry County, there are few who have been more closely connected with, or more deeply interested in every thing pertaining to its advancement and welfare, than has the subject of this article, Ransom B. Cole.

Born in Andover, N. H., Sept. 20, 1837, he is the youngest son of Miles F. and Sallie (Bixby) Cole, and was brought by his parents to McHenry County when about one year old. He received the usual common-school education afforded in the early schools of Burton Township. He was reared on the farm and married at Genoa, Wis., Jan. 10, 1864, to Mary R. Wilson, who was born in Richmond Township, Jan. 19, 1840, daughter of Harvey and Betsy (Thompson) Wilson. Harvey Wilson was a pioneer



*Eli T Chase*





of McHenry County and was born in Massachusetts, Nov. 23, 1799.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cole settled on a partially improved farm of 240 acres near English Prairie, in Burton Township. Mr. Cole purchased his farm of Harvey Wilson, completed the improvements and built upon it a substantial frame dwelling house and a large barn. He lived here until 1873, then moved to Richmond and bought a one-third interest in a flouring-mill in company with his brother, Miles H. Cole and W. H. Cooley, under the firm name of Cole, Cooley & Company. The enterprise proved successful and they conducted an extensive business until 1895, when the firm dissolved. Since that time Mr. Cole has given his entire attention to the management of his farm, as he is now disabled for active work. Politically he is a Republican and cast his vote for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. He has served as Township Collector and School Director in Burton Township, and as Highway Commissioner in the Township of Richmond. Mr. and Mrs. Cole are the parents of Wilson Miles, born Jan. 31, 1865; Chase Bixby, born July 15, 1866; Lewis H., born June 24, 1872, and Ransom Verne, born Nov. 9, 1873. Their son, Chase Bixby, conducts the home farm. He married July 16, 1889, Maud Frances Van Every, and they have two children, LeRoy and Harold Glenn.

Lewis H. Cole, the third son of Ransom and Mary E. (Wilson) Cole, married Sept. 26, 1901, Alice Elizabeth Anderson, daughter of Robert David and Margaret Ann (Mullen) Anderson, who was born in Richmond Township, July 31, 1880.

Harvey Wilson, father of Mrs. Cole, was the son of Warren and Hannah (Hunt) Wilson. His father, Warren Wilson, was of English Puritan ancestry, and settled in the town of Jay, Essex County, N. Y. His children were Sylvester, Loyal Marshall, Juna, Harvey, Alphonso, Hadasah, Rosetta, Achsah and Esther. Harvey Wilson was reared a farmer, received a common-school education and married in Wellington, N. Y., Dec. 12, 1825, Betsy Thompson, born May 2, 1804. After marriage they settled on a farm in Clintonville, Clinton County, N. Y. In 1832 he moved to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and in the spring of 1837 settled at Solon Mills, McHenry County, Ill., where he was one of the pioneer residents. He made the

journey from New York to McHenry County with horses and wagon. Mr. Wilson bought 240 acres of land of the United States Government, built a log house, and with other general improvements made a comfortable home. He moved to English Prairie, Burton Township, in 1849, and purchased a farm, but later moved to a farm of 101 acres adjoining the village of Richmond on the east, where he passed the remainder of his life and died Feb. 12, 1883, at the venerable age of eighty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were the parents of the following children: Wyman, born June 9, 1828; Harriet Adeline, born Dec. 22, 1830, died when two years of age; Lorillard Almon, born June 10, 1833; Pauline Annette, born May 22, 1835; William Warren, born Sept. 8, 1837, and died an infant; Mary Rosette, born Jan. 19, 1840; Sarah Esther, born May 5, 1842; Otis Thompson, born Dec. 27, 1844; Thomas Hunt, born Oct. 22, 1848. Politically Mr. Wilson was a Republican and held the office of Justice of the Peace, Postmaster and Township Treasurer, serving in each for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were both members of the Universalist Church. Mrs. Wilson died Nov. 12, 1875.

#### ELI T. CHASE.

Eli T. Chase, of Ringwood, Ill., is a pioneer settler of McHenry County and descends from Puritan English stock, his remote ancestors coming from England in early colonial times. According to a well-authenticated family tradition, three Chase brothers—one of whom was a sea captain—came to America in the days of early immigration, and were the founders of the American branch of the family.

Stephen Chase, the grandfather of Eli T., was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and took an active part in the battle of Bunker Hill. He married a Miss Blodget, and afterwards settled in Newbury, Vt., where he followed the occupation of a farmer. His children were: David, Stephen, Joshua, Marian, Sally, Betsy (who died in childhood) and Beniah, who died at the age of twenty-one years. Mr. Chase lived to be about fifty years of age and died at Topsham, Vt.

Joshua Chase, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born at Newbury, Vt., June 22, 1797. He received a common-school edu-

cation and later enlisted in the War of 1812, but saw no service. Being naturally inclined to mechanics, he became a carpenter and joiner, and could manufacture almost any article from wood. He was married to Mary Fowler, a native of Newbury, Vt., and a daughter of Jacob Fowler, a farmer who, at one time, was possessed of considerable wealth. Mr. Chase settled at Johnson, Vt., where he owned and conducted a farm and worked at his trade, but in June, 1848, he removed to Illinois, making the journey with teams to Burlington, Vt., crossed Lake Champlain to Whitehall, N. Y., thence via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, completing the trip to Waukegan, Ill., via the lakes. He settled at Smith's Corners, McHenry County, removing a few years later to Ringwood, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying June 25, 1882, aged eighty-five years. To Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Chase the following named children were born, viz.: Melvina, Mary Ann, Eli T., Minard M., Ruth Ann, Freeman J. and Harper J. Mr. Chase was a Universalist in religious belief, while his wife was a member of the Baptist church. In political opinions he was first a Jacksonian Democrat, but became a Republican at the time the party was organized, and voted for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. He was a strong Union man, and three of his sons—Minard M., Freeman J. and Eli T.—served in the Civil War. Minard M. was a Sergeant in Company A, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted for three years and participated in many important battles. He is still living. Freeman J. Chase was a private in the One Hundred and Forty-fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted for one hundred days and died from the effects of sun-stroke at Columbus, Ky., while in the service.

Eli T. Chase, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born at Johnson, Vt., Feb. 10, 1829, the son of Joshua and Mary (Fowler) Chase. He received a common-school education and afterwards attended an academy for a short time at Johnson, Vt. When a youth he worked with his father at the carpenter's trade, and when twenty years of age, came to Illinois, making the journey with his father's family as far as Kenosha, Wis. In November, 1848, Mr. Chase came to Smith's Corners, McHenry County, where he engaged as a farm hand to John W. Smith, and was also employed in

several other capacities, such as working in the lumber woods in Michigan and operating a threshing machine. In 1850 he crossed the western plains to California with the John W. Smith expedition. (See sketch of Freeman Whiting). On Oct. 19, 1858, he was married in Sycamore, Ill., to Lucia Tabor (nee Jones), widow of Levi Atwood Tabor. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Chase located on their present homestead, then consisting of forty-one acres adjoining the village of Ringwood, but by a subsequent addition, their estate now consists of 161 acres. Several years previously Mr. Chase had purchased forty acres of land one mile north of Ringwood, which he cultivated for a few years, and in addition operated a threshing machine, but disposing of this property, he bought his present homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Chase had one daughter, Florence M., who was born Aug. 26, 1860, and died April 16, 1863.

On Aug. 6, 1864, Mr. Chase enlisted in the Union Army and served until the close of the war, being honorably discharged at Washington, D. C., in January, 1865. He returned from the army without having received a wound or spent a day in hospital. He took part in the last battle fought in Virginia. The captain of Mr. Chase's regiment, Capt. John Delaney, together with seven of his men, was captured by the guerrillas and taken to Libby Prison. Mr. Chase is an honored member of the McHenry Post, G. A. R., and, as a citizen, is well known and highly esteemed for straightforward character.

Lucia (Jones) Tabor was born at Topsham, Vt., Nov. 3, 1827, the daughter of Moses and Annette (Wallace) Jones. She was first married at Bradford, Vt., Feb. 12, 1850, to Levi A. Tabor, who was born at Topsham, April 2, 1827. He was a well-educated man and taught school for a while, but later engaged in the mercantile business in his native village, where he died Nov. 10, 1856, leaving one son, Oscar A., who was born Feb. 6, 1854. The Joneses were an old New England family who settled in Connecticut in the days of early colonial history, while the Wallaces were of Scotch ancestry and settled in Vermont. Joseph Jones, the grandfather of Mrs. Chase, was born in Connecticut and was among the earliest pioneer settlers of Topsham, Vt., where he became a substantial farmer and lived to a



*Mrs. Eli H. Chase*





venerable age. His children were: Joseph, Moses (father of Mrs. Chase), Jonathan, Sallie and Olive.

Moses Jones was born at Topsham, Vt., Jan. 27, 1801, the son of Joseph Jones. He was a lumberman by occupation and married in Corinth, Vt., to Annette Wallace, who was a native of the same State and a daughter of Moses and Betsy (McKeith) Wallace.

Leander Wallace, an uncle of Mrs. Chase, was in early times (1837-40), a teacher among the Puget Sound Indians. On one occasion Mr. Wallace, having learned that the Indians were planning a general massacre of the white people in that section, crossed the Oregon River and notified the inhabitants of the impending danger. He was then chosen by the people as one of a committee of twelve to visit the Indians in an effort to avoid trouble. On reaching the tribe the redskins seized the entire party and bound them to standing trees, except Mr. Wallace, who was bound to a fallen tree and skinned alive. Mr. Wallace lived for six hours in this dreadful condition after the Indians had completed their fiendish torture. The other members of the committee were afterwards released and allowed to return to their settlement. With the assistance of friendly Indians a party of white people succeeded in capturing the tribe that murdered Mr. Wallace, and six of their chiefs were hung for the atrocious crime.

Victor M., a brother of Leander Wallace, was, in all probability, born in the old Spring Hotel, at Newbury, Vt., Aug. 22, 1807, the son of Moses and Betsy (McKeith) Wallace. He possessed a native talent for music and became a professional clarionet player, and also made several improvements in the construction of that instrument. About 1835, he removed to St. Louis, and opened a gunsmith shop, giving special attention to repairing pistols and guns, and in the same year perfected and obtained a patent for a model of the first breech-loading pistol. In 1841 he was married to a Miss Roy, a lady of Scotch parentage, and they shortly afterwards removed to Pettis County, Mo., where their first child was born. In May, 1847, accompanied by three other families, they started for the State of Oregon with two wagons and five yoke of oxen. Six months later the little party reached Whitman, Oregon, where they remained for two weeks and then proceeded to Oregon City, arriving at the latter

place just a fortnight before Christmas. Here Mr. Wallace made the first die with which the ten-dollar gold pieces, coined at the Oregon mint, were stamped. He also constructed the first threshing machine used in Oregon and the printing press upon which the "Free Press," a newspaper edited by Mr. Curry (who later became Governor of the Territory of Oregon), was printed. When the discovery of gold in California created so much excitement, Mr. Wallace started for the mines, and he was one of a party of sixty men who first opened the way from the Willamette to the Sacramento River. In 1850 he removed to the Cowlitz Valley, Washington Territory, where he took up land upon which he spent the remainder of his life. In political opinions Mr. Wallace was a Republican, and was twice elected County Treasurer, and twice County Commissioner.

Colonel William Wallace, grandfather of Leander and Victor M. Wallace, came from Scotland in pre-Revolutionary days and opened a store at Newbury, Vt., and the building in which he conducted his business is still standing being one of the oldest structures in the town. Colonel Wallace conducted an extensive trade, buying furs of all kinds, which he shipped direct to Glasgow, Scotland. In the days of the American Revolution, he was paymaster for the troops stationed at Corr, and was also sent to Montreal, Canada, to negotiate an exchange of prisoners. He was High Sheriff of his county, and, for many years, one of the most prominent men in that section. In the last few years of his life, he met with several financial failures and lost most of his property. He is buried in an unknown grave in Oxbow Cemetery. His wife was Hannah Carleton, a sister of Mrs. Col. Thomas Johnson and Dudley Carleton, and among their children were: John, who graduated from Dartmouth College and practiced law in Newbury, Vt., but died in early manhood; Ann (Mrs. Will Brock), and Moses who married Betsy McKeith, daughter of Deacon Thomas McKeith.

Deacon Thomas McKeith arrived in Newbury, Vt., from Scotland, Oct. 1, 1774, being then nineteen years of age. Later he settled at Topsham, Vt., where he cleared a farm and died in 1823, his wife dying two years later. Among their children were: Duncan McKeith, who was a prominent citizen of Newbury, and Catharine, who married Peter Martin.

## IRA ROZEL CURTISS.

Hon. Ira Rozel Curtiss, banker, ex-legislator and retired lawyer, Marengo, Ill., is of English-Puritan and Vermont colonial ancestry, the founders of the American branch of the family having, as is believed, come to Massachusetts during the period of Puritan emigration between 1628 and 1640. Elias Curtiss, one of the early members of this family in New England, was one of the founders of Royalton, Vt., which was settled in 1771. He was captured by Indians during a raid in 1780—the Revolutionary War being then in progress—as shown by the following extract from a History of the town of Royalton:

"On the morning of the 16th of October, 1780, before the dawn of day, the inhabitants of Royalton were surprised by the approach of about 300 Indians of various tribes. They had left Canada for the purpose of destroying Newburg, a town on the Connecticut River. A British Lieutenant of the name of Horton was the chief commander, and one De Mott, a Frenchman, was the second. Several people were killed on the outskirts, and they then went to the house of Elias Curtis, where they took as prisoners Mrs. Curtis, John Kent and Peter Mason. Mrs. Curtis had just risen from her bed, when she was attacked by an Indian, knife in hand, who made a threatening movement as if to cut her throat, but the savage happened to observe a string of gold beads around the woman's neck, which he at once took and left her undisturbed. To prevent an alarm being sounded, the Indians commanded the prisoners to keep silence on pain of death. Continuing their attack, the Indians killed several of the inhabitants and carried off twenty-six persons from Royalton, who were all delivered up to the British in Canada as prisoners of war."

In the early records of Royalton, Elias Curtis is also mentioned as one of the parties to whom an extension of the time of payment of certain fees was granted by act of the Legislature, on account of his Indian raid.

The name "Curtiss" has been variously spelled by different branches of the family, as frequently happened as to early New England names, and it has been only within the last two or three generations that uniformity has been attained. For at least this period the branch of the family to which Mr. Curtiss of Marengo belongs has used the spelling adopted in this sketch. The first of this branch of the family to come to America was William Curtis, who came from Appledore, Canterbury,

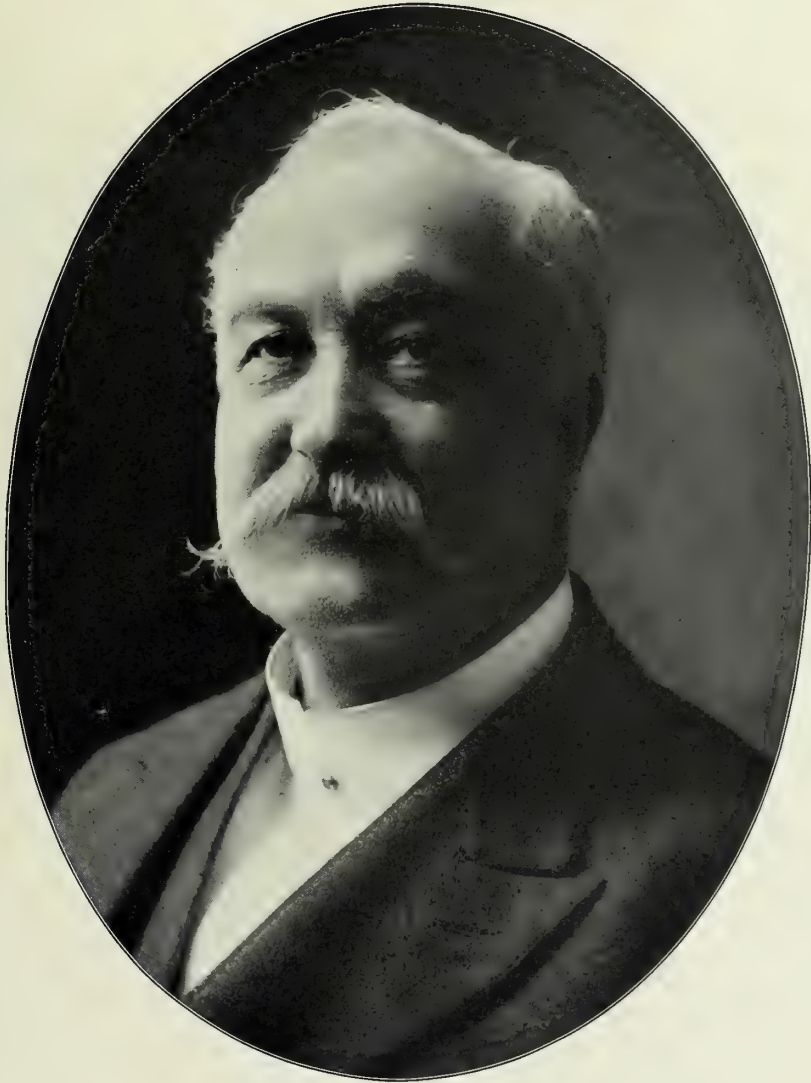
in Kent, England and settled at Roxbury, Mass., in 1632. He married Sarah Eliot, the sister of Rev. John Eliot, the famous missionary who translated the Bible into the Indian language. The coat-of-arms of the family in England is described as follows:

Arms: Ermine a chevron, sable between three fleurs-de-lis. Crest: An arm embowed, habited in mail, holding in the hand proper a scimiter, kilt and pommel. Motto: Velle berine of Acere.

Rozel M. Curtiss, as he spelled the name, who was the father of the subject of this sketch, was born at Royalton, Vt., received a more than ordinarily good education in his younger days, was a teacher for a time and became a leading man in his community. A Latin book of his bearing the date "1802" is still preserved in the family. He married Rachael French, who was born in New Hampshire, the daughter of Obadiah French, a native of London, N. H., and moved from his native place to Genesee County, N. Y., settling at Castile, where he engaged in the lumber business and became the proprietor of a saw-mill. In 1834 he removed to Mt. Morris, N. Y., where he continued in the lumber trade and bought land. A year later (1835) he came to Illinois and made the first claim on land at DeKalb Center. He did not settle here at that time, however, but bought out a number of farmers who had made claims upon Government lands which had not yet come into market. He also started a number of farmers in business, furnishing them with money, implements, supplies, etc., in this way investing some \$7,000 and, leaving his business in the hands of an agent, returned to New York. On June 15, 1838, he died at his home in New York, aged about fifty-six years. As a consequence of his early death, his investments in Illinois proved a complete loss. Owing to the distance and the consequent difficulties of communication with the West at that time, the lands on which he had purchased claims, fell into the hands of other parties who entered them at the Government Land Office. Mr. Curtiss occupied a prominent position in his community and was a Brigadier General of Militia in New York. He and Mrs. Curtiss had six sons of whom five grew up to maturity, viz.: Charles, George, Jerome, Frank S. and Ira Rozel.

Ira R. Curtiss, the last named, was born at





*Ira R. Curtis*



Mt. Morris, N. Y., Sept. 9, 1836, and was about eighteen months old at the time of the death of his father. His mother, who was a woman of great force of character, carried on the farm after her husband's death, and gave her sons a good education. At her husband's death, finding the estate involved in consequence of the western investments already mentioned, and the home farm somewhat encumbered, she devoted her attention to carrying on the latter with the aid of her sons, with such success that she succeeded in freeing it from encumbrance and, besides adding to it thirty-eight acres more, insured a good home for her children. Of her five sons whose names have been mentioned, two—Frank S. and Ira R.—received collegiate educations, and three—Frank S., George and Ira R.—served their country in the Civil War. Frank S. attained the rank of Colonel of the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteers, while his brother George met a patriot's death during the siege of Vicksburg. To the training of such noble mothers as Mrs. Curtiss we, the American people, are indebted for that galaxy of patriotic sons whose heroic service resulted in maintaining the integrity of the Union and securing the freedom of a race. Honesty and truthfulness are distinctive virtues of the civilized races, imbibed with the mother's milk and learned at the mother's knee as character develops; and seldom do we see a dishonest son issue from the home of an honest and patriotic mother. Mrs. Curtiss moved from New York to Yellow Springs, Ohio, where she educated her family. In 1861 she removed with her son Ira R., to Marengo, where she died in 1898. She was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Ira R. Curtiss was educated in the district schools, meanwhile working on the farm in his boyhood. His brother, Frank S., became a student at Oberlin College, Ohio, and, at the age of sixteen, Ira R., entered the preparatory department of the same institution, of which Dr. Finney, the famous divine and anti-slavery champion, was the President and leading spirit. During the next year his college course was interrupted by having to remain upon the farm, although this became an important part of that practical education by which his life was broadened and rendered all the more useful. Later he and his brother Frank S. became students at Antioch College, then under the

direction of its founder and first President, Horace Mann, one of the most distinguished educators of his time. Here Mr. Curtiss completed his preparatory course and spent three years in the college proper. President Mann died in 1859, one of his last business transactions being with young Curtiss who represented "The Star Literary Society" in the collection of \$78, a draft for which President Mann endorsed, besides giving Mr. Curtiss a letter of introduction to a banker at Xenia, Ohio. Mr. Curtiss' last college year was spent at Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., under the Presidency of the famous Dr. Nott, where he graduated with honor from the classical department in a class of 105 members, of which only thirteen were honored by being selected to deliver orations, of which Mr. Curtiss was one. It has seldom fallen to the lot of any young man to pass under the tutorship of so distinguished a trio of educators as those who presided over the three institutions just mentioned. At this time Ira R. Curtiss' brother Frank S., who had previously read law in Chicago with the firm of Van Arnam, Walker & Dexter, was practicing at Springfield, Ohio, in partnership with J. W. Keifer, afterwards Speaker of the House of Representatives at Washington. Ira R. read law with his brother for a few months at Springfield, Ohio, when they came to Marengo, McHenry County, arriving there Feb. 6, 1861. Here the older brother opened a law office, but the Civil War breaking out almost immediately, he enlisted in April following under the first call of President Lincoln, as a member of Company D, Fifteenth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, of which he became First Lieutenant, still later, as already explained, becoming Colonel of the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh during the last two years of the war. During the first few months of its service, the Fifteenth was employed chiefly in guarding railroads and breaking up rebel camps in Missouri; and, for a part of that time, was divided into two or three separate detachments, but being reunited returned to St. Louis, where they slept on the sidewalks. After spending some time in Benton Barracks, the regiment went to Raleigh, Mo., where Mr. Curtiss was taken sick and finally honorably discharged on account of disability. Returning home he was sick for a year, when he accepted a clerkship in the Pro-



vost Marshal's office at Marengo, remaining in this position to the close of the war. He then resumed the study of law in the office of the late A. B. Coon, and in June, 1865, was formally admitted to the bar and began practice at Marengo. In 1876 he was elected States Attorney for McHenry County, serving by re-elections eight years, and proving himself an efficient prosecutor. His last important appearance in this office was in the prosecution of the celebrated Dacy-Gainor murder trial, in which Dacy, the murderer, was convicted and sentenced to be hung at Woodstock—which was the first execution in the history of McHenry County. During his incumbency in the office of State's Attorney, Mr. Curtiss gave evidence of his honesty by setting the example—for the first time, it is said, in the history of the county—of paying over to the Superintendent of Schools the funds coming into his hands under the statute in the form of fines and forfeitures. A considerable sum was turned over to the school fund in this manner, and the beneficial effect of the example is seen in the fact that it completely revolutionized the methods in respect to this fund in the State's Attorney's office. Mr. Curtiss also served for fifteen years as Attorney for the village of Marengo.

Ira R. Curtiss has been twice elected to the State Legislature, first in 1870 as a member of the House in the Twenty-seventh General Assembly, and for the second time in 1884 as Senator in the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth General Assemblies. The session first named was that held immediately following the adoption of the Constitution of 1870 and including the period of the Chicago fire. Much of the time of the Legislature was taken up in a general revision of the State laws made necessary under the new Constitution, and Mr. Curtiss served as Chairman of the House Committee having charge of the revision of the election laws. Besides the regular session, this General Assembly held an adjourned and two special sessions—in all occupying 293 days. The Thirty-fourth General Assembly (1885) is memorable for the long contest over the election of United States Senator, which resulted in the choice of Gen. John A. Logan for the last time. This General Assembly commenced its session with 102 Republican members on joint ballot, to the same number in opposition, of whom 100 were Democrats, one Greenback

Democrat and one (E. M. Haines) self-styled "Independent." During the session three members—one Republican and two Democrats—died; and, in the election of their successors, the Republicans gained one member, giving them 103 members to 101 opposition, resulting, on May 18th, after a struggle of over three months, in the re-election of General Logan. During his first session in the Senate Mr. Curtiss introduced one of the first bills to prohibit the sale of oleomargarine as pure butter. Two years later he served as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, and took a prominent part in the investigation of abuses in connection with the State printing contracts, and in securing the enactment of a number of reformatory measures, including one requiring the payment of salaries of clerks and other subordinates in the various departments of the State Government directly to the employes, instead of to the heads of departments. The provisions of this law are still retained in the language of the original act. Mr. Curtiss also participated during this session in the election of Hon. C. B. Farwell to the United States Senate, as a successor to General Logan, deceased.

In 1890 Mr. Curtiss assisted in the establishment of the "Dairymen's State Bank of Marengo," of which he was elected Vice-President and, a year later, became its President, which position he still holds. This bank has a capital stock of \$25,000 with a surplus of \$14,500 and does a prosperous business, the dividends for 1901 amounting to 12 per cent. The other officers are: Lorin Woodard, Vice-President, and A. S. Norton, Cashier.

In political opinions Mr. Curtiss is a Republican, having cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln for President in 1860. During the memorable campaign of that year, he was an active member of the "Wide-Awake Club," which exerted such a strong influence in arousing the enthusiasm of the people for the Republican candidates. This was the pioneer of political marching clubs, its uniform consisting of enameled cloth capes and glazed caps, in the night processions each marcher bearing a torchlight. Mr. Curtiss visited Chicago with his club during the session of the Republican National Convention of 1860, and, while standing outside the old "Wigwam," heard William H. Seward's stentorian voice, as he described slavery as "a giant serpent winding along its slimy folds."

Fraternally Mr. Curtiss is a 32d degree Mason, having first united with the Marengo Lodge, A. F. & A. M., in 1863, where he also took the chapter degrees. He joined the Commandery of Knights Templar at Rockford, but is now affiliated with the Woodstock Commandery, and became a member of the Consistory (32d degree) in Chicago. He is also a member of the Marengo A. O. U. W., Lodge No. 231, and has been a charter member of both the Marengo and the Woodstock Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, being the Commander of the former for the first two years after its organization.

On May 27, 1874, Mr. Curtiss was united in marriage, by the Rev. Robert Collyer in Chicago, to Josephine Dayton, who was born in Huntley, Ill., in 1852, the daughter of Rev. Elisha and Mary (Whittemore) Dayton. Mr. Dayton, who was born in Suffolk County, N. Y., was a Universalist minister, became a pioneer of Huntley, and died at Marengo, aged fifty-eight years. Mrs. Curtiss was his only child. His parents were Deacon Henry and Sarah (Robinson) Dayton, the former born on Long Island of combined French and German extraction. Mrs. Curtiss is a member of the Baptist church and a lady of culture and refinement.

Mr. Curtiss received the honorary degree of A. M. from his Alma Mater (Union College, N. Y.), in June, 1890, on the fortieth anniversary of his graduation, seventeen of his former classmates being present on that occasion.

#### DR. CHARLES E. COOK.

Dr. Charles E. Cook, a leading physician and prominent business man of Huntley, has for the past twenty years been prominently identified with the public interests of that place, and for ten years has served as Coroner. He possesses a large capacity for directing affairs, and his power of turning off work is something marvelous.

Dr. Cook was born in Franklinville, McHenry County, Ill., Jan. 27, 1853, the son of Thomas and Sarah Jane (Coquillotte) Cook. The doctor's grandfather Cook, was a prosperous farmer and resided in Rockland, not far from the City of New York. By his marriage there were two sons: John was a silversmith in New York City; Thomas Masters Cook, father

of Dr. Charles E., for many years a leading farmer and prominent politician of McHenry County, and during the Civil War, Provost Marshal for Northern Illinois, was born in Rockland County, N. Y. Losing his parents at an early age he passed seven years as the adopted son of people who made life so disagreeable for him that, at the end of that time he ran away to New York City. In the meantime he had received a limited education, and once in the city, he there learned the cooper's trade, which he followed for some years. On Dec. 25, 1843, he married Sarah Jane Coquillotte, who was born in Rockland County, N. Y., in March, 1821, the daughter of William and Maria (Garison) Coquillotte, who are mentioned below. Mr. and Mrs. Cook had six children, of whom the first three were: Louisa, George Washington who died in childhood in New York City, and Charles Edgar, who is mentioned below. William Wallace Cook was for many years the leading physician and surgeon of McHenry County, residing at Woodstock for fifteen years, where he acted as surgeon for the North-Western Railroad. He died in that city at the age of thirty-six. John Arthur died when a child. Edward Herbert, a leading business man of Huntley, born in Franklinville, Ill., Feb. 10, 1863, was reared to farm work and, in the Marengo high school, procured a thorough education, graduating in 1882. After leaving school he assisted in the management of the home place until 1895, when he located in Huntley and purchased a half-interest in his brother's drug store, where he has since been engaged. In Marengo, July 13, 1887, he married Myrtle Louisa Sisson, who was born near Marengo, Aug. 24, 1862, daughter of Allen P. and Laura (Wisner) Sisson, who as pioneer farming people, were the second family to settle on Coon Creek, near Marengo. He moved to Marengo in 1883, and died in 1899, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. His children were: Charles, Angus, Franklin, Fred, Mary, Belle, Myrtle (Mrs. Cook), Lizzie, Anna, and Carrie. Mr. Cook has prospered in business and now owns a half interest in the Glazier block, a fine residence, and other city property. He is popular in the place, has served four years as village clerk, and is now acting as Postmaster, having received his appointment in 1902, under President Roosevelt. Politically he is a strong Republican. Consistent Chris-



tians, both he and his wife belong to the Congregational Church. Fraternally he affiliates with the K. of G., and the I. O. O. F. of Huntley having taken all the degrees in the last named lodge, including Noble Grande, and at five different times he has acted as representative for the State at the Grand Lodge.

Thomas Masters Cook, the father of this enterprising family of children, settled in Jersey City for a short time after his marriage, and then, in 1851, moved to a farm in Franklinville, McHenry County, Ill., but shortly afterward sold the property, and purchased a more desirable farm, in the same locality, where he engaged in agriculture very successfully for many years. Then the desire to give his children better educational advantages, led him to sell this place and move to Aurora, Kane County. He finally, however, returned to McHenry County, and purchased another farm near Franklinville, where he resided for the rest of his life. He greatly improved his property, and became very prosperous, but died on the farm in 1893.

Mr. Cook was one of the popular political leaders of his section. First a Whig, he took part in one of the early conventions held at Galena which christened the Republican party, and in 1860 was present in the convention which met in the old wigwam at Chicago, and nominated Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency for the first time. A strong Union man in the early days of the Civil War, he rendered valuable service in raising the soldiers to fill the quota for McHenry County. As already stated he served during this period as Provost Marshal for his district in Northern Illinois, filling the position with marked ability. For many years he served as class-leader in the Methodist Church, of which he and his wife were members. Possessed of legal ability he was often appointed as administrator for valuable estates, and he also acted as guardian for several families of children.

Dr. Charles Edgar Cook spared himself neither time, hard work nor money in preparation for his lifework as a physician. At an early age he attended the public schools of McHenry County, and later Jennings Seminary, at Aurora, for four years, laying the foundation of a literary and scientific education. Having chosen a medical career he then entered the medical department of the Northwestern Uni-

versity, where, after a five years' course, he graduated in 1880, securing in the meantime some most valuable surgical practice in Mercy Hospital. Well-equipped for his profession, May 1, 1880, he opened an office in Huntley, and began regular practice. Close attention to every patient, and correct diagnosis of every case won him the confidence of the community, and he soon had a large practice, which has steadily increased from year to year. He has made a speciality of surgery, and, in connection with his brother Dr. William Wallace Cook, has performed some remarkable operations. He now has probably the largest practice of any physician in the place. Besides attending to the duties of his profession, Dr. Cook has found time to engage in business, and in 1886, opened a drug-store in Huntley. This business was successful from the start, and in 1893 it had become so large that it was found necessary to move to more commodious quarters; so he erected the fine business block, a part of which he now occupies. About the same time he received his brother, Edward H., into partnership, and the two are now carrying on a successful trade. Dr. Cook now owns a handsome residence, and two large business blocks.

In Franklinville, Jan. 27, 1874, Dr. Cook, at twenty-one years of age, married Mary Grace McNish, who was born at Auburn, N. Y., April 1, 1852, and they have two children; Harry and Bessie. Dr. Cook has always been especially prominent in public affairs, served as Coroner from 1886 to 1896, on the Board of Education for a long time, and for several years as Village Treasurer. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Woodstock Commandery, A. F. & A. M., and the Blue Lodge, Marengo Chapter, Knights Templar. Politically he is a strong Democrat.

The Coquillette family, maternal ancestors of Dr. Cook, are of royal blood. The first American representative was a half-brother of Louis XIV., Francis Capet, a French Huguenot, who, in his native country, resided on his handsome estate at LaRochele. During the Roman Catholic persecution, he with his wife and son Daniel, fled to America, leaving in their haste, a daughter who was away at school. Upon his arrival in America he assumed the name Coquillette, and was thus known at New Rochelle, Westchester County, N. Y., where he first resided. Later he settled in Rockland County near New City, but finally moved to a farm





*J. F. Casey.*



in Rockland County, N. Y., where he passed his last days. He was married twice. By his first union there was a son, Daniel, who is mentioned below; and the daughter, left in France, of whom he never afterward heard. By his second marriage there were two daughters, Frances and Katie. He was buried beside his wives in New York City.

Daniel Coquillette, but a small child when his parents came to New York, was reared upon the farm in Rockland County, and upon reaching manhood followed agriculture for an occupation. He was prosperous in his business and a man of influence in his community. In military affairs he was especially active, and served as a "minute-man" in the Revolutionary War. He married Maria Stevens, sister of Judge Peter Stevens, of Rockland County, and their children were: Peter, who died in infancy; Peter (2), who, upon reaching manhood, changed the spelling of his name to Cokelet; Mary, Phoebe, Daniel, who took the surname Cocalet; and William, who retained the original spelling of his name.

William Coquillette, son of Daniel, and grandfather of Dr. Cook, was born in Rockland County, N. Y., in 1791, and as a boy learned the shoemaker's trade. After reaching manhood, he carried on farming in summer, working at his trade in winter. He was thus employed until the opening of the War of 1812, when he enlisted in a light-foot troop, and going to the front served valiantly, acting for some time as one of the guards at Harlem Heights. After the war he went to New York City and was employed for a time as a carman, but eventually returned to his farm in Rockland County, where he passed the rest of his life, dying at the age of forty-two years. He is buried in New York City. During his young manhood Mr. Coquillette married Maria Garrison, and they had ten children: Daniel, William, James, Francis, Marquis LaFayette, Sarah Jane (the doctor's mother), Ellette Ann, William Edgar, Abraham, and Emily and John, both of whom died young.

William McNish, father of Mrs. Charles E. Cook, was born in Scotland, came to America in early life, and finally to Illinois, settling on a farm in Coral Township, McHenry County. Here he built up a good home for himself, and became a successful farmer and prosperous citizen. During his young manhood he married

Grace Stewart, and they had ten children: William, John, Jane, Belle, Alexander, Nathan, Charlotte, Mary, May and David. Alexander and Nathan served as soldiers of the Union under their uncle, Captain Nish, during the Civil War.

#### JAMES F. CASEY.

James Francis Casey, Esq., is a native of McHenry County who has been conspicuously the architect of his own fortunes, and has achieved an enviable success at the McHenry County bar chiefly by his own unaided efforts. Mr. Casey's grandfather, Daniel Casey, who was a native of County Limerick, Ireland, was a farmer by occupation and, in 1847, came with his family to America, this being during the period of the celebrated famine which began in 1846. He settled in Virginia, where he finally died. His children were: Robert, Daniel, Jr., Michael and Mary. Daniel Casey, Jr., who was born in his father's native county, was about thirteen years old when brought by his parents to America. He received a common-school education, adopted his father's occupation as a farmer and married in Boston, Mass., Nancy Byron Fitzgerald, also a native of County Limerick, Ireland, the daughter of Garrett Fitzgerald. Her father was a man of superior education and had been a teacher in his native country. Coming from Ireland to America in 1848, he first settled in Boston, but two years later (1850) came to Chicago, where he finally died between eighty and ninety years of age. The children of Garrett Fitzgerald were: James, Garrett, Mary, Kate and Eliza—all of whom were well educated. The oldest son James, who was a promising young lawyer in Chicago at the beginning of the Civil War, enlisted and became Captain of Company I, Twenty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Col. James A. Mulligan, popularly known as the famous "Irish Brigade," and participated in many hard-fought battles. Captain Fitzgerald was a zealous member of the Fenian organization. The daughter, Eliza, who was the youngest member of the family married and, at an early day, moved to Kansas, where she was massacred at the time of the Quantrell raid against Lawrence in that State. Shortly after his marriage Daniel Casey, Jr., and wife came



to Chicago, where they resided about four years, but in 1851 they moved to McHenry County settling near Huntley, where Mr. Casey bought land and began improving a farm. He died in 1861 of typhoid fever, aged about forty years. Mrs. Casey survived him many years, dying at the age of seventy-six years. She was a very devout Christian, and during her life was the correspondent of some of the dignitaries of the Catholic church, among them Bishop Foley and Father Daman of Chicago. She was a faithful mother, and, after the death of her husband, maintained a good home for her children, early instilling into their minds the precepts of virtue and right living. Self-sacrificing to a remarkable degree, she labored with untiring zeal to bring up and educate her family that they might occupy good positions in life.

James F. Casey, the son of Daniel Casey and wife, was born in Huntley, Ill., March 6, 1861, and was only three days old when his father died. He was brought up in Huntley by his mother, and to the early training received at her hands is due the underlying principles of character on which his success in life has been founded. He was kept at school regularly until he was about thirteen years of age, when he found employment at farm work, his first duty, as a boy, being the watching of sheep at two dollars per month. Later, when able to do general farm-work, he received five dollars per month, his highest wages amounting to eleven dollars per month, when he quit farm-work, while still young. After this he found employment at Huntley and in Chicago, meantime keeping up his studies by close application during his spare hours. By careful economy he saved a little money and, at sixteen years of age, graduated from the high school at Huntley. He then attended the Elgin Academy for three winters while working during the summers. When about twenty years old, he received a first-class certificate as teacher from the County Superintendent of Schools, and thus began teaching before he had reached the age of twenty-one years. In 1881 he organized a private grammar school in Elgin, meanwhile, having devoted his spare time to reading law, in 1883, he entered as a student the law-office of Judge Ranstead, a prominent attorney of Elgin, and, after attending the Union Col-

lege of Law at Chicago, for a time, was admitted to the bar in March, 1887. On September 6, of the same year, he located in Woodstock where he began the practice of his profession. He soon secured a good practice and, in 1888, formed a partnership with Hon. M. L. Joslyn, of Woodstock, which was continued until March, 1897, when he began practice alone, which he has since continued.

Mr. Casey has been engaged on one side or the other in most of the important cases tried in McHenry County for the past decade. Some of his leading cases include the J. G. Templeton murder case, in which he was on the side of the defense, the defendant being acquitted. He was also retained for the defense in the case of Mrs. Woollert for shooting her daughter. Mrs. Woollert was adjudged insane. He appeared for the defense in the Joseph Held and Dr. Koehler murder case, resulting in the discharge of the prisoners. In the case of John Flusky against James Clancy, Mr. Casey succeeded in saving an estate valued at \$150,000 to its rightful owner. This case was carried to the Supreme Court. Politically Mr. Casey has always been a staunch Republican, and has been active on the stump in every campaign since the candidacy of James G. Blaine; has also served one term as Chairman of the McHenry County Republican Central Committee.

Mr. Casey is one of the well-known lawyers of Northern Illinois, where he enjoys an extensive practice. Personally he is one of the most affable of men, greeting every one with a pleasant word and taking especial pains to show a friendly feeling toward strangers. He is a close student of many subjects, especially those of a public character, his strong mentality enabling him to grasp questions of a social and political character affecting the public welfare. Withal he is an instructive and entertaining conversationalist.

Mr. Casey was married in October, 1888, to Minnie Simmons, a native of Woodstock, who is now deceased, leaving one daughter named Sylvia.

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#### JOHN J. COONEY.

Among the rising young attorneys of McHenry County, deservedly stands the name of



John J. Rooney.





John J. Cooney, of Woodstock, who has recently entered into partnership with C. P. Barnes, Esq., and is now rapidly pushing to the front in his profession. Mr. Cooney was born in Woodstock, Ill., April 21, 1879, the son of R. D. and Annie M. (Hallisy) Cooney, both of whom belonged to pioneer families of McHenry County. The son received his preparatory education in the high school at Woodstock, after which he attended Notre Dame University, at South Bend, Ind., graduating from the Law Department of that institution in 1901 with the degree of LL. B. Having been admitted to the bar in his native State, he promptly entered into partnership with C. P. Barnes, one of the most prominent attorneys of McHenry County, with whom he remained until January, 1903, when he became associated with his present partner, C. P. Barnes, Esq., under the firm name of Barnes & Cooney, who are now in the enjoyment of a prosperous business.

During his brief professional career, Mr. Cooney has given evidence that he is one of those young men who rise by inherent ability and native energy, coupled with strict attention to business and personal integrity of character. In his native town of Woodstock, where he has been known all his life, he stands deservedly high for all those elements which go to make up the personal character of the successful professional or business man, and his future is looked to as one of assured prosperity and success. Mr. Cooney was elected City Attorney of the City of Woodstock in 1903.

RODERICK D. COONEY, father of the subject of the above sketch, and one of the early settlers of McHenry County, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., Oct. 4, 1844, the son of Martin and Mary A. (McKenna) Cooney. Martin Cooney was a native of Galway, Ireland, where he was born July 15, 1815. His wife, Mary A. McKenna, was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, April 20, 1820. The father of Martin was Roderick Cooney, who followed the life of a shepherd in his native country, and there died. When between twelve and fifteen years of age, Martin Cooney came to America and, in his early days, found employment at farm work among the Quakers. In 1841, having accumulated some money by his

industrious and thrifty habits, he came to Hartland Township, McHenry County, and bought 160 acres of land where his son Roderick now lives. There were no improvements upon this land at that time except a little log-house on one side of it. Mr. Cooney soon after returned to Columbia County, N. Y., where he worked for Thomas J. Rider, a wealthy Quaker farmer, who had a farm of 600 acres, of which Mr. Cooney became manager. On Oct. 21, 1843, he was married, in Columbia County, to Mary A. McKenna and, in 1844, removed with his wife and infant son, Roderick D., to Hartland Township where, as already stated, he had bought land three years before. Having arrived here in June, 1845, he proceeded to improve his land, building on it a log-house on the site where the barn now stands. After living here nearly twenty years, in 1864 he bought the Hale farm of 260 acres, upon which he lived until his death, Dec. 16, 1866, at the age of about fifty-two years. Here he became a substantial and prosperous farmer, at the time of his death being the owner of 460 acres of land. Mrs. Cooney survived him over twenty-five years, dying Jan. 21, 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Cooney were members of the Roman Catholic church and, in politics, he was a Democrat, as were most of his nationality who came to America at an early day. This was not to be wondered at in the view of the oppression which they had endured in their native country at the hands of England's aristocracy, and it was as natural for them to be attracted by the word "Democrat" when they set foot on American soil, as it was to resist tyranny in their native home. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Cooney were: Roderick D., born Oct. 4, 1844; Patrick, born Dec. 22, 1845; John Henry, born Nov. 15, 1847; Thomas F., born Jan. 1, 1849; James, born Oct. 15, 1850; Mary, born June 19, 1852; Anna M., born Feb. 14, 1854; Martin and Michael Edward (twins), born Jan. 14, 1856; Francis Peter, born Jan. 7, 1858; William, born March 7, 1860—all born in Hartland Township except Roderick D., who was born in Columbia County, N. Y.

Roderick D. Cooney was about nine months old when his parents came to Hartland Township, and he grew up among the pioneer settlers of that vicinity. Here he received the common-school education of that locality and

period, and from his early days was reared to the life of a farmer. On Jan. 24, 1877, he was married to Anna M. Hallisy, who was born in Hartland Township, July 22, 1845. (See sketch of Hallisy Family elsewhere in this volume). After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cooney settled in Woodstock where he was engaged in buying and selling live-stock, and also owned an interest in a grocery establishment. He was also quite extensively engaged for a time in the butter and cheese manufacturing business, for which he erected a building in Hartland Township, and another near the present Dorr factory south of Woodstock, besides owning an interest in a factory on the Franklinville road southwest of Woodstock. For some time we was the owner of a cattle ranch in Nebraska, to which, at one time, he shipped 169 cattle from Hartland Township. This he finally sold and engaged in the milk business in Chicago, which he carried on a few years. Up to 1892 his home had been in Woodstock, but during that year he returned to his home farm in Hartland Township, where he now has 200 acres of land in a good state of cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Roderick D. Cooney have had the following named children: Martin Francis, born October, 1877, died October, 1881; John J., born April 21, 1879; Roderick, born April 15, 1881, died December, 1889; Anna, born April 20, 1885.

In politics Mr. Cooney is a Democrat and has served as Supervisor of Hartland Township several years; was also Tax Collector one year, and has served several years as Justice of the Peace. He has proved himself during his active career a practical farmer and an enterprising business man.

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#### ALBERT S. CORL.

Although the Corl family, on the paternal side, is of French descent, by intermarriage the blood of nearly every principal nationality in the United States now flows through their veins. In addition to the original French, this includes German, Holland-Dutch, English, Scotch, and Swedish descent—most of these being prominently represented among the pioneers of New York State, where the founders of the American branch of the family resided.

Henry Corl, the earliest member of the American branch of whom any record exists, was married to Susan Grote, of Schenectady, N. Y., he being of French and she of German extraction. Their son William, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was married to Mary Springer at Schenectady, N. Y., and both died there. His occupation was that of a farmer. Her father, David Springer, was of Swedish blood, and her mother, Mary Oliver, English. David Springer served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was killed during the struggle. His family finally removed to Canada, where each received 200 acres of land. Mary having returned to New York, as already stated, married William Corl, who had been a Revolutionary soldier.

The children of this marriage were: David, Mary, Margaret, Effie, Susan, Keziah and Henry. The last named enlisted in the War of 1812 and was reported killed. David, the older, was born August 9, 1788, and married Jane Elder, born March 24, 1789, and both died in Schenectady, N. Y.—he in October, 1872, and she in 1867. He was a member of the Dutch Reformed church, a farmer by occupation and a soldier in the War of 1812. Their children were: William, John, Henry D., Mehitabel, Richard, Maria, James, Susan, and Hannah.

Jane (Elder) Corl's parents were John and Mehitabel (Merrick) Elder, the former a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, and a weaver by occupation, and the latter of English and German descent, and born in Cambridge, Vt. Both died at Schenectady, N. Y. Their children were: Mary, Hannah, Jane, Mehitabel (who became the wife of David Corl), Margaret and John.

Henry D. Corl, the third son of David Corl, and father of our subject, was born at Rotterdam, Schenectady County, N. Y., August 2, 1814. He became a farmer, and, on Jan. 20, 1841, married Mary Schryver, at Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y. Mary (Schryver) Corl is descended from Stephen and Sarah (Manning) Schryver (her grandparents), the former a native of Wirttemberg, Germany. His wife was the daughter of Joshua Manning, and her mother an exiled French Princess named De-Roselle, who settled in Westchester, N. Y. Mr. Manning was a farmer and he and his



wife were married and lived near Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Stephen Schryver's children were Albert, Frederick, Joshua, John and Melissa. Albert Schryver, the oldest of this family, was born Nov. 30, 1788, and married Hannah Wines, the only child of James and Susannah (Hultzhopple) Wines, born Jan. 1, 1795. Mr. Schryver was a soldier in the War of 1812, and followed, at different times, the occupation of a shoemaker, farmer and lumberman. He died in Lake County, Ill., Jan. 17, 1873, and Mrs. Schryver, Sept. 5, 1873. Their children were: Sarah, Albert, Mary (who became Mrs. Henry D. Corl), John, Jacob, Stephen and Almira. James Wines, the father of Hannah Wines, was a native of Holland, and his wife, Susannah (the daughter of Nicholas Hultzhopple) was of German descent, their marriage taking place at Livingston Manor, now Columbia County, N. Y. By occupation he was a ship carpenter.

Mrs. Mary (Schryver) Corl was born at Manlius, Onondaga County, N. Y., March 18, 1818; in 1819, removed with her parents to Dutchess County; in 1834 to Warren County, then, in 1835, to Duaneburg, Montgomery County, and finally to Florida in the same county, where her marriage took place, as already stated, Jan. 20, 1841. At first Mr. and Mrs. Corl located at Schenectady, but on Sept. 21, 1848, started for Illinois, finally settling on a farm in Algonquin Township, McHenry County, where they resided until May 31, 1878. They then removed to Dundee, Kane County, where Mr. Corl died Sept. 8, 1894. He was an influential citizen and a zealous Methodist, for many years being a class-leader in the church. In politics, he was originally a Jeffersonian Democrat, and later an original Republican and supporter of John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Corl's children were: Anna (died in infancy), John, Hannah (died about two years of age), Albert, Sarah, David and Louis. John enlisted in 1862 as a soldier in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, came home on a sick furlough, March 27, 1863, and died two hours after his arrival. David, another brother, died Nov. 27, 1873. Mrs. Corl still lives at the age of eighty-four years, resided with her daughter Sarah, at Dundee, Ill.

Albert S. Corl, our subject, was born in Algonquin Township, Oct. 9, 1849, and grew up among the sturdy pioneers of that section. He attended the first school in his district (No. 8), taught in a primitive log school-house by Miss Louisa Andrus, who was followed later by Miss Louisa Perkins. Among his school-mates were Henry Keys (present Sheriff of McHenry County), Oscar and Henry Ford, Edward Webster, and John, Robert and William Morton. After leaving the district school, Mr. Corl spent two years in the Elgin Academy, and, at twenty-four years of age, began teaching in a frame school house in his home district, continuing two terms. In September, 1870, he went to Kansas, and there engaged in teaching in Lyon and Coffey Counties, in which he spent four terms, also giving attention to the management of a farm of 120 acres, which he had bought in Lyon County. On April 7, 1875, he was married in that State to Miss Mary A. Suttle, the daughter of John and Lucretia (Chapin) Suttle, born at Marysville, Iowa, Sept. 27, 1854. Mr. Suttle was a native of Virginia, who, after removing west, first settled in Illinois, removed thence to Iowa and finally to Lyon County, Kan., where he became a pioneer farmer and where he died. His children were: Horace, Sophronia, Julia, Edwin, George, Mary, Charles and Francis. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Corl settled on his farm in Lyon County, where Mrs. Corl died, April 5, 1882, leaving three daughters named Sadie May, Cora Lillian and Rena Alice—the last named dying at the age of nine months. Mrs. Corl was a devout Christian and a member of the Methodist church, and, in her younger days, an active worker and teacher in the Sabbath school. After the death of his wife in 1882, Mr. Corl returned to Dundee, Ill., and during the winter of 1882-3 taught school in Algonquin Township, McHenry County. In the spring of 1883 he engaged in the mercantile business in Dundee, in partnership with his brother, Louis J., which was continued five years. At the end of this period, having bought his brother's interest, he removed the stock to Nunda, McHenry County, where he resides, continuing in business there eight years. In October, 1897, he was appointed by President McKinley, Postmaster of the village of Nunda—a position which he has



filled with satisfaction to the patrons of the office, and which he still holds. Other offices held by him at different times include those of Town Clerk of Elmondero Township, Lyon County, Kan., Village Clerk of Nunda, Town Clerk of Nunda Township, member of the Village Board of Trustees for two years, and member of the Board of Education. In politics Mr. Corl has been a life-long and consistent Republican. The various positions held by him indicate his standing as a citizen and the high esteem in which he is held in the community.

#### JAY L. CONOVER.

Jay L. Conover is of sturdy Holland-Dutch stock and ranks as one of the pioneers of McHenry County, Ill., where his father settled in the early '40s. The remote ancestors of the family were among the founders of the Netherlands. The grandfather of Jay L. Conover was a farmer of Montgomery County, N. Y., and his son Marcus, a native of the same State, adopted the life of a farmer, and, in early manhood, was married to Sarah Schuyler, the daughter of Thomas Schuyler. He made his home in Montgomery County, in that State, where he opened up an extensive farm in the woods fifteen miles from Schenectady. His farm occupied 680 acres and he became an extensive stock-raiser, especially cattle and horses, and accumulated a large property. He sold out his farm in New York in 1843, and the next spring removed with his family to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey by the Erie Canal to Buffalo and thence by the lakes. Arriving at Chicago, he purchased a two-horse team and proceeded to Huntley, McHenry County, where he bought 320 acres of partly improved land. Having shipped a large amount of goods by way of the lakes to Chicago, he went there with several teams to remove them to Huntley. While engaged in loading his goods and transporting them over the almost impassable roads, he over-exerted himself, was taken sick at Clybourne Avenue and died in a few hours. Mr. Conover was a member and elder in the Presbyterian Church, and, in politics, a Whig of that period. He was energetic and enterprising and acquired a considerable property by his own exertions.

The children were: George W., William H., Jacob S., John S., Jay L., James, Alvah, Martha A., Jane, Marietta and Sarah—all born in New York. All came to Illinois except Martha and Marietta, who died in their native State.

Jay L. Conover was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1826, received a common-school education and learned the carpenter's trade. When between eighteen and nineteen years of age he came to Illinois, by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes, arriving at Huntley, June 2, 1844, whither his parents had preceded him two years before. His father had already died as related in the preceding paragraph, and his mother died one week after his arrival. Both are buried in the cemetery at Dundee, Kane County. Mr. Conover soon after engaged in farming on the home farm, but two years later sold his interest to his brother John S., who still lives upon the old homestead. He then went to Crystal Lake, and in March, 1846, embarked in general merchandising, but not being satisfied with the business, soon sold out and engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages in partnership with S. P. Parker, continuing in this line until the opening up of the railroads. Meanwhile, having bought a fine farm of 250 acres in Crystal Lake Township, he again turned his attention to farming for the next five years. At the end of this period he became foreman carpenter for C. S. Dole, the stock-man, built the ice-houses at Crystal Lake, Mr. Dole's spacious residence and many other structures. In all he remained with Mr. Dole sixteen years, when he again resumed farming. Having received a severe sun-stroke, which greatly impaired his health and from which he never fully recovered, he sold his farm about 1883 and engaged in the furniture trade at Crystal Lake, but two months later, having removed to Nunda, took up the furniture and undertaking business there, in which he is still actively engaged in spite of his nearly seventy-eight years. This being the only establishment of the kind in Nunda, the business has proven remunerative.

Mr. Conover was married at Huntley, Dec. 10, 1846, to Louisa Butler, daughter of Morgan and Sarah (Norton) Butler, born in Onondaga County, N. Y., Feb. 16, 1826. Morgan Butler was a native of the same county, became a

farmer and removed to McHenry County about the same time the Conovers did, settling on a farm on the prairie west of Huntley, where a log house had been erected and some breaking and clearing done. He was a reliable man and prominent citizen, and highly esteemed by his neighbors. He died at the age of about sixty years. His children were named Frank, Louisa and Marion.

Mr. and Mrs. Conover celebrated their golden wedding at Nunda in 1896. Their children are: Eugene, Oscar F., Jay L., Jr., Albert B., William, Marion, Louisa and Myrtle. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church and assisted to erect the first Methodist church edifice in Nunda. Politically he was an old line Whig casting his vote for Zachary Taylor for President, but, on the organization of the Republican party, identified himself with that party and was a supporter of John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln in 1856 and 1860. Beyond serving as a member of the Board of Town Trustees, he has taken no part in office-holding politics, but has proved himself a friend of morality and temperance, and, by a course of upright and honorable dealing, has won the respect of all good citizens.

#### JOHN S. CONOVER.

John S. Conover was born near Schenectady, Montgomery County, N. Y., Feb. 15, 1824, and is a son of Marcus and Sarah (Schuyler) Conover. His father and mother were both of sturdy Holland-Dutch stock, and the name Conover was originally spelled "Covenhoven." Marcus Conover, the father, was born in Schenectady, N. Y., Oct. 11, 1788, the son of a sturdy Holland-Dutch farmer, who owned a large farm, well improved and having upon it substantial buildings. The grandfather was a prosperous man and lived to be nearly one hundred years of age, and served as a patriot soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Marcus Conover married Jan. 1, 1809, Sarah Schuyler, who was a descendant of an old New York family by that name. He and his wife settled on a part of his father's farm on the Mohawk River, and lived in a log house. Mr. Conover served in the War of 1812, and, at one time during the war, when some British

soldiers were passing their house, Mrs. Conover hid with her first-born child until they were safely by, which, perhaps, proved the means of saving their lives. The Conover homestead was a fine farm of 200 acres, and here the twelve children of Marcus and Sarah (Schuyler) Conover were born, as copied from the old family Bible, in the following order: George Washington, born Nov. 19, 1812; William Henry, born Jan. 29, 1814; Martha Ann, born Nov. 9, 1815; Jane, born Sept. 22, 1817; Jacob S., born Sept. 15, 1820; Maryetta, born Feb. 15, 1822; John S., born Feb. 15, 1824; Jay Lansing, born Feb. 22, 1826; James L., born March 9, 1828; Sarah Louise, born Dec. 12, 1830; Marquis, born March 11, 1833, and Alvory, born April 22, 1835. Marcus Conover was a very prosperous man and followed the occupation of a farmer and accumulated a large estate. He also engaged extensively in buying horses and drove them to Boston and New York, where he sold them in the city markets. He handled and sold many finely matched teams, frequently receiving \$1,000 for a nicely matched team of carriage horses.

James Winne married Jane, daughter of Marcus and Sarah (Schuyler) Conover, and settled in 1843, near Huntley, Ill., and this was one of the reasons for the removal of the Conover family to the Western frontier.

Marcus Conover and his family made the trip to Illinois via the Erie Canal to Buffalo and then by steamboat to Chicago. The journey from Chicago to Huntley was made with team and wagon and they arrived at the latter place in June, 1844. Immediately after arriving Mr. Conover bought 233 acres of land, forty acres of which had previously been broken. After settling in Huntley, Mr. Conover returned to Chicago for his goods, which had been shipped by freight, and, in handling the heavy commodities, he over-exerted himself and died while absent from home, from the effects of the injuries received, on June 28, 1844, at the age of fifty-six years, three months and fourteen days. His wife died June 29, 1845, aged fifty-one years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Conover were members of the Presbyterian church, and were hard-working people, highly respected by all of their acquaintances.

Mr. John S. Conover received a common-school education, and, when nineteen years of



age, came with his parents to McHenry County. Chicago was then but a small village and McHenry County was thinly settled. Mr. Conover married in Grafton Township, Feb. 6, 1851, Sarah J. Vanderveer, born in Florida, Montgomery County, N. Y., Aug. 21, 1831, daughter of Tunis Vanderveer.

Tunis Vanderveer was born in New York State, belonged to the old Vanderveer family of Holland-Dutch ancestry and followed the occupation of a farmer. He removed with his family to McHenry County in 1849 and lived for a few years on the Conover homestead. Later he bought land in the same township, but died shortly afterwards at the age of fifty years. His children were: Henry, Garret, George, Sarah J., Maria and Sumner. After her husband's death, Mrs. Vanderveer lived on the old homestead, and aided by her willing and industrious children, added to the original possession until she owned 333 acres of fine farming land.

John S. Conover improved his farm with substantial buildings and about twelve years ago bought a pleasant residence property in Huntley, where he resided until his death, Jan. 25, 1902. In politics Mr. Conover was formerly an old-line Whig, but after the dissolution of that party, advocated the principles of the Republican party. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Conover are: Warren S., born Aug. 17, 1857; William H., born July 14, 1853; John S., born Feb. 16, 1861; Anna, born April 16, 1866; Marcus, born Jan. 16, 1872, and Jay L., born March 16, 1876.

Mr. Conover devoted his entire attention to farming interests, and he was widely known, highly respected by his acquaintances as a man of sterling character, honest and honorable in all his dealings with his fellow-men. By his energy, perseverance, and excellent management he accumulated a valuable estate. Jay L. Conover, the youngest son, is now a student at the Northwestern University at Evanston. He married Lucy Rude, a prominent teacher of McHenry.

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#### JOHN S. CUMMINGS.

John S. Cummings, Huntley, Ill., descends from an old Puritan New England family of

Scotch and English descent. His father, Guy C. Cummings, born in Herkimer County, N. Y., 1789, was left an orphan in early boyhood and became a soldier in the War of 1812, being present at the battle of Plattsburg, where he served as a teamster. In Herkimer County, N. Y., he married Eleanor Wheeler, born in Pittstown, Conn., in 1798, daughter of a Revolutionary soldier of English ancestry. Guy C. Cummings settled in Cortland County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm, and, in 1838, came to Illinois in advance of his family, making the journey overland with horses and a wagon and bringing with him his son, Stewart Cummings, then a boy of about sixteen years of age. Mr. Cummings located in Kane County, Ill., three miles east of Huntley, where he took up a half-section of land, later disposing of part of it. In August, 1838, his family came to Illinois making the trip via the lakes. Mr. Cummings met them at Buffalo and accompanied them on the remainder of the journey. After his arrival he settled on his land in Kane County, where he lived about six years, when he sold this property and purchased a farm of 200 acres one-half mile west of where Huntley is now located. This land he bought at second-hand, but it was unimproved. He improved his farm, erected on it good farm buildings for the time, and made of it a pleasant and comfortable home. His children were: Alexander, Harriet, Lucy, Stewart, William, Lucy (2), Waity, John S., Jane, Albert, Willard, Charlotte and Roxsan, all of whom are deceased excepting Waity, John S. and Jane. Politically Mr. Cummings was a Democrat, but voted for Abraham Lincoln. He was a well-known and influential citizen and held the office of Overseer of the Poor and Highway Commissioner for many years. He died April 14, 1862. He had two sons, John S. and Willard, in the Civil War. Willard was in Company I, Eighth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, and was promoted to orderly Sergeant; served four years and afterwards veteranized, taking part in many conflicts, among them being the Battle of Gettysburg. He died several years later from the effects of army life.

John S. Cummings was born in Cortland County, N. Y., Jan. 22, 1830, and was but eight years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. He first attended school in





J. H. Cummings, Mrs. John H. Cummings



a log house owned by a Mr. Kibby and taught by Mr. Kibby's daughter Melissa. He afterwards attended school in the first log school house built in Dundee Township, where he was one of the first scholars. Later, a three-year course at the Elgin Academy completed his education, which was considered very good for those days. He was raised a farmer and married in Huntley, Ill., July 4, 1859, Mary Elizabeth Baldwin, born in Plattsburg, Clinton County, N. Y., July 28, 1831. Her father died in New York State, and her mother afterwards came west to live with a daughter who had married Peter Ferris and settled in Coral Township, McHenry County. She died when about sixty-seven years of age. The Baldwin children were: Mary E. and Seth W., both of whom are now deceased. In 1852, before marriage, Mr. Cummings, then but twenty-two years of age, crossed the plains to California. Besides Mr. Cummings, the party consisted of Lewis Holdridge and family, two men by the name of Calhoun, Thomas and William Lumley, Thomas Welch and Frank Colgrove. The latter had four good horses and a covered wagon, and Mr. Cummings and three others each paid him \$100 cash to take them to California. The party left Huntley, March, 24, 1852, went to St. Joseph, Mo., where they laid in supplies, then proceeded to Fort Kearney on the Platt River, next to Fort Laramie, finally reaching Salt Lake City, where they stopped a few weeks to recruit. Mr. Cummings had walked almost all of the way, as Mr. Colgrove was sick and but one man could ride at a time. The party, after leaving Salt Lake City, passed along the Humboldt River to "the Sink," and thence to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and around the range to Placerville, where they disbanded, having been about four months on the journey. There were a great many Indians on the plains but they had no trouble with them. While passing near the head of the Humboldt Range, they met a party of white men who had been robbed by the Indians the night before. The following night the party camped on the same spot. The Indians were rather wily, but they arrested the chief and told him that if they were molested, they would shoot him first, and then as many of his party as they could capture. He was instructed to carry this message to the rest of the tribe. They took the

chief with them for half a day, and then released him. On the Sierra Nevada Mountains, between what is known as the two summits, Mr. Cummings saw a deep canyon about one mile in width, which his party crossed July 15th. It was filled mostly with a large body of ice that never melted, summer or winter. The ice was believed to be more than 150 feet thick, and large pine trees were growing through it, their trunks extending above the ice so one could take hold of the branches, while the roots were imbedded in the soil at least one hundred and fifty feet below. It is believed that the ice was deposited there after the trees were full grown.

In Placerville, Mr. Cummings found himself without money and \$150 in debt. Placerville was then (1852) a rough mining camp, full of gamblers and other reckless characters. Mr. Cummings hired out to a man who was building a flume from the American River to Placerville (known in pioneer days as "Hangtown"). He received \$75 a month and board and worked for about four months. In building this flume, big sugar-pine trees were used, one of them, worthy of special mention, measured twenty-two feet through, and many others were one hundred and eighty feet in height. They split out 50,000 posts, four and one-half inches square and four and one-half feet long, from this immense tree, and there was still as much more lumber left in the unused portion. Mr. Cummings engaged in mining in Cedar Canyon, near Placerville, and cleaned up about five dollars a day, but being obliged to pay one dollar a pound for flour, he saved but little. In February, 1853, he engaged to work for Lewis Holdridge, a hotel-keeper, and had charge of his farm for three years, sometimes having as many as 200 horses to keep over night. He afterwards bought a team and worked with it for about one year. In 1857 he returned home via San Francisco and the Isthmus of Panama, thence by steamer to New York, and then home, where he arrived May 20, 1857, and soon afterwards married. He then engaged in the stock business, settling at Huntley, Ill.

At St. Charles, Kane County, Ill., May 15, 1861, he enlisted as a musician in a brass band for a term of three years, and was mustered into the United States service with Company A, Seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteer In-



fantry, the first Illinois regiment to be mustered into the service. Mr. Cummings served in the army nearly two years and was actively engaged in the battles of Belmont (Mo.), Fort Henry (Tenn), Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Farmington and Corinth. It was a part of the duty of musicians, in time of battle, to look after and carry the wounded from the field. They were under fire and often exposed to great danger. At the battle of Fort Donelson he took part as a soldier, and, finding a musket on the battle-field, performed service in the ranks. At the battle of Shiloh Mr. Cummings received an injury to the left leg, from which he has never recovered. He was always with his regiment and on active duty, never losing a day in the service. He was honorably discharged at Corinth, Miss., in November, 1863, on account of the disbanding of the regimental bands. Having returned to Huntley, in 1864-65, Mr. Cummings conducted a mercantile business, afterwards changing to the agricultural implement business, in which he continued for several years. Since 1894 he has devoted his attention to insurance and real estate. In this he has succeeded well, and now owns a good farm of 240 acres in Sac County, Iowa, an improved farm in Lyon County, Minn., and residence property in Huntley. In politics he is a Republican and voted for John C. Fremont and later for Abraham Lincoln. He has been prominent in public affairs, and has held all the township offices from Constable to Supervisor, which last office he held for six years. He was Coroner of McHenry County for one term. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic Order, and held the office of Master of the Lodge, at Huntley, which is now discontinued.

Mr. and Mrs. Cummings were the parents of one son, Dr. Fred S., who attended the Medical Department of the Chicago University, but died March 22, 1901. Mrs. Cummings died June 16, 1901, aged nearly seventy years. Mr. Cummings, thus left alone in his declining years, fortunately has his son's widow, Mrs. Jennie Cummings, to manage his household and attend to his wants with kindly care.

The following beautiful poem by Mr. Cummings, was read on the ninetieth anniversary of his mother's birth, Oct. 19, 1887, at a reunion of her children at Dundee, Ill. Until

about fifty years prior to this date, Mrs. Cummings was a resident of New York, when she and her husband settled in Kane County, Ill. Like all early settlers, she endured the many privations and hardships of pioneer life, which stamped upon character the qualities of industry, economy and piety. Mrs. Cummings was the mother of fourteen children, five of whom were living and present at the reunion, viz.: Mrs. Robert Duff and Mrs. William Duff, of Dundee, Ill.; Mrs. Daniel Duff, of Chicago; Stewart Cummings and J. S. Cummings, of Huntley, Ill. They and their families, together with a goodly number of grand-children and a few old neighbors were present on the occasion when the following poem was read:

#### Ninety Years Old.

What is more pleasing to behold  
Than aged manhood, strong and bold,  
Erect in form and clear in thought,  
Wise of the knowledge years have brought;  
With heart and soul to right inclined,  
Possessed of all that's good and kind,  
And stood the sunshine and the tears  
Of ninety long, eventful years?

Such is our mother: bless that name!  
It thrills my heart to speak the same,  
And language poorly can supply,  
To speak the love my lips would try,  
Or of the heart's emotion tell  
In praise of her we love so well;  
Our mother, wrinkled, old and grey,  
Who's lived her ninety years today.

'Twas she that watched our early years,  
Supplied our wants and stayed our tears;  
With kisses sweet our lips would press  
And soothe our cares with loves caress.  
Our every want she seemed to know,  
No task so hard she would not do;  
Our mother, gentle, kind and true,  
The dearest friend we ever knew.

Today, four generations share  
This natal gathering, 'round the chair  
Where sits our mother, like a queen,  
The central figure of the scene;  
Laughing, chatting, bright and gay,  
Talks of her ninety years today,  
With child and grandchild, just the same,  
She knows us all and speaks each name.

Of early years she much will tell,  
Of childhood's days she loved so well;  
Of youthful friends that once she knew,  
To life long since have bid adieu:  
While she, of all that youthful throng,  
Is left alone to journey on—  
A living milestone on life's way,  
That marks her ninety years today.

Then, is this not a day most rare,  
When age with youth and childhood fair,  
Commingle in our happy throng,  
In social chat, in feast and song?  
To celebrate this ninetieth year  
Of her we cherish and revere;  
Who has walked so long life's rugged road.  
And bore so well life's weary load?

But life, at best, is but a span;  
It almost ends when first began.  
The future, with its sable hue,  
Is ever closed to mortal view.  
The past, replete with joy and pain,  
In thought we live it o'er again;  
And so, in doubt, we linger here,  
Yet hope to meet another year.

J. S. CUMMINGS.

#### WILLIAM W. CHANDLER.

William W. Chandler, the efficient business manager and editor of the "Woodstock Sentinel," has been engaged in his line for over twenty years, with extended experience in some of our largest cities, including Omaha, and Chicago. He is now about forty-three years old, in the full vigor of manhood, and in securing his services the "Sentinel" has been especially fortunate.

Mr. Chandler is the son of Chancey E. and Sarah (St. John) Chandler, and a descendant of several fine old colonial families. His maternal grandfather, Samuel St. John, son of a New York pioneer farmer, was of French extraction, and his early ancestors residents of Massachusetts. Mr. St. John was born in Ulster County, N. Y., and upon reaching manhood engaged in farming in that State. When the War of 1812 broke out, he enlisted and valiantly went to the front. Returning, he settled in Steuben County, N. Y., and there, at an

advanced age, he died. In Ulster County he married Ruth Carpenter, of German ancestry. She died in Steuben County in her eighty-first year. Their children were: Jane, Harvey, Eliza, Daniel, Rebecca, Sarah (Mrs. Chandler), who is mentioned below; Samuel, Mary, William, who served as Lieutenant in a New York regiment for three years during the Civil War, and Wealthy. The parents were worthy citizens and noble Christian characters, both being consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Chandler Family is of colonial Massachusetts lineage. Chancey E. Chandler, father of William W., and for years a prominent hotel-keeper, was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., Jan. 13, 1828, and procured a good common-school education. He embarked in life as a cooper, but later spent a few years as a school teacher at Palmyra, N. Y. In Steuben County, N. Y., April 16, 1848, Mr. Chandler married Sarah St. John, who was born on a farm in Ulster County, N. Y., Feb. 29, 1829, and there received a common-school education, and afterward moved with her parents to Steuben County. She is now a venerable woman and resides with her children. To Mr. and Mrs. Chandler were born three children: Dwight J., Albert C., and William W., who is mentioned below.

After his marriage Mr. Chandler began life as a hotel-keeper, passing a varied career of nine years in that line, two, in Cohocton, N. Y.; the same period in the American Hotel, at Madison, Wis., and five years at Portage City, Wis. He next conducted a first-class hotel for fifteen years at Eau Claire, Wis., where his patronage was large, and his profits generous. To meet the increasing demands of the public he finally erected a commodious and elegant new building, which, five months later, was totally destroyed by fire. In a large hotel at St. Paul, Minn., and later at Sabula, Iowa, he continued his business, and about 1882, engaged in the same line at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Meeting with excellent success here, he remained until 1900, in all eighteen years. Then, retiring from active work, he removed to Eau Claire, Wis., where, Sept. 2, 1901, at the age of seventy-four years, he died.

Mr. Chandler was a thoroughly successful business man, not only succeeding in his business ventures, but winning for himself a wide popularity. In fraternal circles he stood high,



and for forty-five years was affiliated with the Masonic Order. He served as recruiting officer during the Civil War, and as such was especially interested in the military doings of that period. It was in front of his hotel at Eau Claire, that the famous war eagle, "Old Abe," was presented to the Wisconsin Regiment; and here, after the war, the bird boarded for several weeks, until taken to the capital, where it eventually died.

William W. Chandler was reared in an atmosphere of business and intellectuality. Born in Eau Claire, Wis., Aug. 1, 1860, he was about fourteen years old when his parents moved to Sabula, Iowa. In well-regulated public schools he received his education, finishing with a thorough course in a high school. When about eighteen years old he settled with his parents in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and there two years later, in 1880, entered the office of a Society Weekly, where he applied himself, both to job printing and to composition. At the end of three years, having thoroughly mastered the details of the work, he secured a position on the "Cedar Rapids Evening Gazette," where, as reporter, soliciting agent and collector, he worked for several years. During this period, in Springville, Iowa, June 3, 1885, he married Allie Copeland, daughter of Loren P. and Amanda S. (Carter) Copeland, who are mentioned below. Mr. and Mrs. Chandler have had two children, the first, Ethel O., dying in Chicago in 1897, and Olive, who was born in Chicago, June 8, 1898.

After his marriage Mr. Chandler resided in Cedar Rapids, where he held his position on the "Evening Gazette," for about four years. Then, in 1889, he moved to Omaha and opened a job-printing office. Artistic work and promptness in filling orders won for him a large patronage, establishing the business upon a firm financial basis. He did work for the best firms in the city, having many large jobs, and he was for some time connected with the American Press Association there. Encouraged by his success, in 1896 he moved to Chicago, where he carried on a similar office. Two years later, in 1898, he received a call to the "Woodstock Sentinel," which he accepted. Closing out his Chicago business, he at once moved to Woodstock, and entered upon the duties of foreman in the "Sentinel" office. Efficient work soon marked him as a man with a future, and upon the re-

tirement of C. A. Lemmers, he was promoted to business manager and editor, a position, which he has since filled. Mr. Chandler understands his work from beginning to end, is practical, and at the same time artistic. There are few men in the country with more extended knowledge of the art of printing. He has recently erected an attractive residence in Woodstock.

Mr. Chandler is a cautious business man, highly conscientious, and has thoroughly at heart the interest of the paper with which he is connected. Personally he is genial, courteous and magnetic, and has hosts of friends. His wife is a lady of refinement, especially prominent in social functions, and a leading member of the Congregational Church.

The Copeland family, of which Mrs. Chandler is a member, is of colonial ancestry. Her grandfather, Jacob Carlton Copeland, married Melvina Waite, and became a pioneer of Cortland County, N. Y. Their son, Loren Copeland, father of Mrs. Chandler, an engineer, traveling salesman, farmer and soldier, was born in Marathon, Cortland County, N. Y., and received an academic education. Upon reaching manhood he married at Marathon, Amanda Carter, who died in Springville, Iowa, when about forty-eight years old. By this union there were seven children: George G., Jacob C., Althea (Mrs. Chandler); Olive M., Fred A., Loren E. and Benson F. After his marriage Mr. Copeland resided at Marathon for some time. During the Civil War he enlisted at Syracuse, in Company G, Seventy-sixth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry. For meritorious conduct in the service he was promoted to Orderly Sergeant. In 1869 Mr. Copeland moved to Springville, Iowa, where he settled upon a farm, and where he remained for eighteen years. He died in that place from the effects of injuries received during the war. He was a capable, conscientious, influential man, and a power for good, wherever chance placed him. His wife was a consistent member of the Methodist Church.

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#### THE CRABTREE FAMILY.

One of the earliest and most notable of the pioneer families of McHenry County is that whose name heads this article. The Crabtrees



are of colonial Puritan stock, the founders of the family in America having come from England during the period of early migration to Massachusetts Colony. Benjamin Crabtree, the pioneer founder of the family in McHenry, who was the grandfather of George and William Crabtree, now of Cary Station, was born either in Massachusetts or in Vermont, May 9, 1770, the son of John and Abigail (Rice) Crabtree. Their children were: Benjamin (1), born July 15, 1755, and died at an early age; Sarah (1), born July 5, 1757, and died in infancy; Sarah (2), born Aug. 23, 1758; Abigail (1), born May 2, 1761, and died in infancy; Elizabeth, born Nov. 2, 1764; Abigail (2), born April 27, 1765; John, born March 23, 1768 and Benjamin (2), born May 9, 1770. The last named was a millwright, but followed the occupation of bridge-building during much of his life. He married Polly Newman, also of New England ancestry, born Sept. 12, 1774, the daughter of Moses and Susannah Newman. The latter were pioneer settlers of Allegany County, where the father cleared up a farm from the woods in Friendship Township and built a saw-mill, which his sons managed for a number of years. He built the first bridge across Bay Canton, near Buffalo, and set out an orchard on his land, which was one of the first in his section. Some of the trees of this orchard, two to three feet in diameter and still thrifty and vigorous, were standing and bearing large crops of fruit a few years ago. The children of Benjamin and Polly (Newman) Crabtree were: Newman, born Nov. 28, 1795; Lucy, born Jan. 5, 1798; Susannah, born July 27, 1800; Betsy, born Dec. 11, 1804; Elias, born Dec. 20 1806; Daniel, born Sept. 18, 1809; Benjamin, born Jan. 6, 1812; Polly, born May 12, 1814; Henry, born May 5, 1816; Levi, born Dec. 16, 1818, and Susannah, born Dec. 20, 1821. Of these Levi became a prominent physician and practiced his profession for many years at Dundee, Ill. Another son, Henry, settled at an early day at Barrington, Cook County, Ill., where he was a well-known citizen.

Benjamin Crabtree, the father of this family, moved to Illinois in 1838, making the journey by land from Allegany County, N. Y., with one four-horse and one two-horse team, encountering much difficulty in crossing the Maumee Swamp in Michigan. He had made a visit during the previous spring to McHenry County.

Ill., accompanied by two of his sons, Newman and Henry, for the purpose of looking over the land and selecting a place for settlement. On his second trip, besides his wife, he was accompanied by his sons Henry and Benjamin and his daughter Susan. After his arrival in McHenry County, he located a claim upon a large tract of land in Algonquin Township, but when it came into market was able to enter only 160 acres in Section 12. At first the family "camped out," living in their wagons until they built a log shanty. Later he erected a log-house, the logs being hewed on both sides. Already about sixty-eight years old at the time of his removal to McHenry County, he continued to live there until his death, which occurred March 23, 1848, at the age of seventy-seven years, ten months and fourteen days. Mr. Crabtree and his wife were members of the Baptist church, and in political sentiments he was an old line Whig. A typical American citizen, he was a man of sterling worth and high integrity of character. Mr. Crabtree had been preceded in his settlement in McHenry County by his son John, who came from New York State in 1835-36, in company with a man named Cisco, walking the entire distance and carrying their packs on their backs. John Crabtree settled in Algonquin Township at a place called by the pioneers "Trouble Hollow," but now known by the more euphonious title of "Silver Lake." Here he was one of the first settlers, erecting a log-shanty and keeping bachelor's hall until he brought out his family between 1836 and 1838.

Newman Crabtree, the oldest son of Benjamin and the father of George and William Crabtree of Cary Station, McHenry County, was born at Friendship, Allegany County, N. Y., Nov. 28, 1795 and received a fairly good common-school education for his time. He served as a soldier in the War of 1812, being disabled by a wound. He was a natural mechanic, and while being owner of a farm, also followed the occupation of a carpenter and mill-wright. He was married in his native county in New York, Nov. 18, 1819, to Sally Hicks, who was born Nov. 12 18<sup>0</sup>2, the daughter of Comfort Hicks. Her father, Comfort Hicks, was of New England stock, was a farmer, and finally died in New York. His children were: William, Sylvester, Nehemiah, Samuel, Deborah, Sallie and Cynthia.

After marriage Newman Crabtree settled on a farm in Pennsylvania, where he built a saw-mill, but subsequently removed to Allegany County, New York, settling on a farm in Friendship Township. In 1840 he removed to Illinois, making the journey with a team to Buffalo, where he embarked with his goods and team by steamer around the lakes to Chicago. Having driven his team across country from Chicago to McHenry County, he settled on Section 6 in Algonquin Township, where he entered 120 acres of land, built a log-cabin and began improving a farm, but was overtaken by death Dec. 1, 1843. In political views he was an old line Whig, and he and his wife were members of the Baptist church. Their children were: Benjamin C., born Nov. 12, 1820; John H., born Feb. 9, 1823; George, born Jan. 9, 1825; William, born Jan. 11, 1827; Louis, born July 5, 1829; Samuel, born July 11, 1831; Elizabeth, born April 15, 1833; Diantha, born July 3, 1835; Edwin, born April 9, 1837; Sylvester, born May 27, 1839; Polly P., born Sept. 1, 1843. Of these, Samuel, Edwin and Sylvester were soldiers in the Civil War, serving in the Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Samuel being killed at the battle of Guntown, Miss.

#### GEORGE CRABTREE.

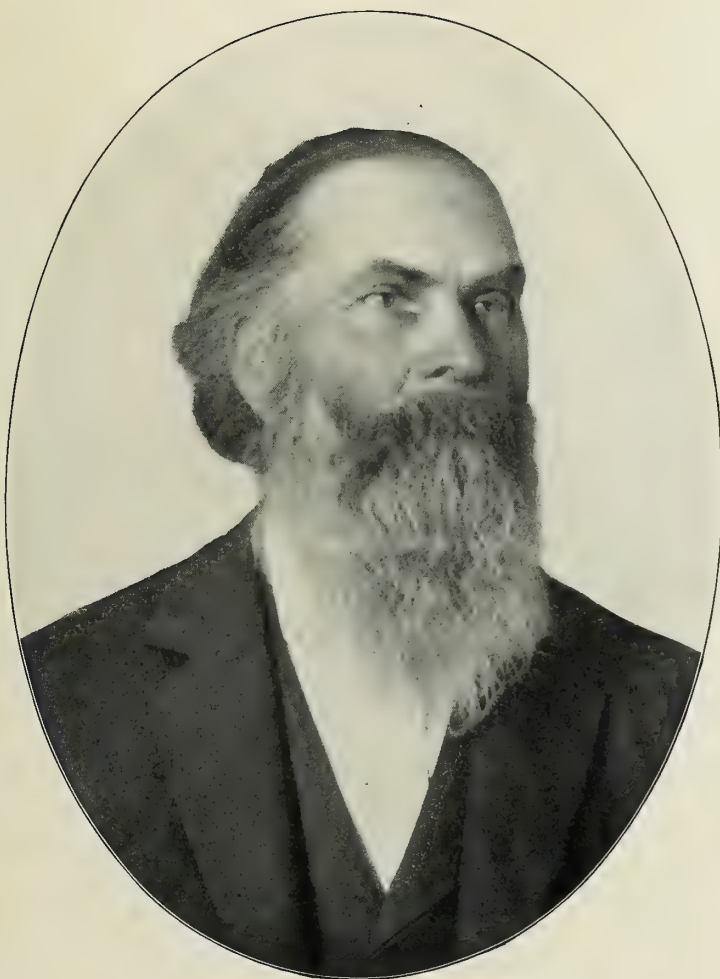
George Crabtree, of Cary Station, McHenry County, born Jan. 9, 1825, received the usual common-school education in his boyhood and, in 1840, came with his father, Newman Crabtree, to McHenry County, Ill., arriving in July of that year. Chicago at that time presented the appearance of a rural village, and it would have been possible to cut a swath of grass on Lake street. The journey from Chicago to Algonquin Township occupied two days and one night, and the family, on their arrival in Algonquin, stopped with Benjamin Crabtree, the father of Newman. A log pen was soon built which, without a roof, furnished a temporary home for the family; this was afterwards partially roofed, and finally a good log-house, roofed with split shingles, was erected. The father, Newman Crabtree, died some three years later, when George was about eighteen years old. The farm then consisted of 200 acres, with fairly good improvements for those days. George remained at the paternal home

until twenty-seven years of age and, in the meantime, assisted in caring for the family. On Jan. 1, 1852, he was married in Algonquin Township to Betsy H. Hubbard, who was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., June 22, 1825, the daughter of Lemuel and Mercy (Gill) Hubbard. Lemuel Hubbard was of an old New England Puritan family, and was a soldier in the War of 1812, serving chiefly on the St. Lawrence River. He was a carpenter by trade, but lived on a farm in St. Lawrence County, N. Y. He passed his active life there, but in his later years, came to Wisconsin, where he resided with his daughter Lucy, dying at an advanced age. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and a reputable citizen. His children were: Gill, Whitford, Isaac, Lucy, Sarah and Betsy.

After marriage George Crabtree settled on a farm of 160 acres in Algonquin Township near the old homestead. He had bought this land before marriage and built a frame house on it. He improved it from a state of nature, making a good home. He lived here until 1865, when he bought another farm of ninety-two acres, upon which he resided until 1887, when, retiring from farm life, he settled at Cary Station, where he built a pleasant residence. He now owns two farms, one of 176 acres and the other of ninety-two acres. In politics he is a Republican of the Abraham Lincoln school. Mr. and Mrs. Crabtree have had two children: Newman G., who was born Oct. 8, 1852, and died in March, 1875, having been previously married, and Edith S., born March 8, 1862. While a young man Mr. Crabtree traveled extensively throughout the West, during which time he had many interesting experiences. Much of the country over which he traveled was then in a state of nature. McHenry County in his boyhood days was but sparsely settled, and he was personally acquainted with many of the early pioneers. He has been an industrious citizen and maintains a reputation for high integrity and probity of character.

#### WILLIAM CRABTREE.

William Crabtree, the fourth son of Newman Crabtree, of Algonquin Township, McHenry County, born in Allegany County, N. Y.,



*Wm. Crabtree.*







*Mrs Wm Crabtree*





Jan. 11, 1827, was thirteen years of age when his father came to Illinois, and well remembers many incidents of the journey. When his father made the journey to McHenry County, much of the land between Chicago and Sand Ridge, where Jefferson now stands, was covered with water, and travel was difficult. Years afterwards Mr. Crabtree was accustomed to haul grain from McHenry to the Chicago market, and was frequently compelled to unload on the way on account of the muddy roads. In these pioneer days the chances of obtaining an education were limited, and as Mr. Crabtree attended school but a short time before leaving his native State of New York, he became practically a self-educated man. During most of his life he has been a farmer, although he learned the mason's trade while young, and pursued it more or less constantly for a number of years.

On Feb. 2, 1855, Mr. Crabtree was married, in Jefferson County, N. Y., to Betsy Ann Weaver, who was born in Oswego County, N. Y., Nov. 14, 1837, the daughter of David and Sarah Maria (Heath) Weaver. Her father, David Weaver, was a native of New York State, the son of George and Betsy (Crisman) Weaver. George Weaver was of Holland-Dutch ancestry in the Mohawk Valley, and was a pioneer of Oswego County, where he owned a good farm. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary War and lived to an advanced age, dying at Sandy Creek, Oswego County. His children were: David, George, Catharine, John, Mary, Chester and William. David—the oldest of these and the father of Mrs. Crabtree—married Sarah M. Heath, the daughter of Josiah and Mary Heath. Josiah Heath was of old New England stock, and a pioneer farmer of Oswego County, N. Y. His children were: Harvey, Lovina, Talitha, Sally, Asa, Nathaniel and Emily. David Weaver lived for many years on the Weaver homestead in Oswego County, but in 1841 or '42 removed to Illinois, coming by way of the lakes to Chicago, and going thence to Dundee, where he spent one summer. He then purchased land near by in Cook County and improved a farm, remaining for some years. After several changes, he finally became the proprietor of a hotel, where he died at the age of sixty-seven years. In politics he was a Democrat. His children

were: Lorenzo, Betsy Ann (Mrs. Crabtree), Electa and Mary.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. William Crabtree settled on a part of his father's homestead, and, by industry and thrifty management, prospered until they had a farm of 229 acres. Mr. Crabtree improved his farm, erecting on it good substantial buildings, but in 1894 removed to Cary Station, where he built an attractive home. He is an honored citizen of Algonquin Township, and held the office of Town Trustee (or Township Supervisor) for twenty-four consecutive years; was also School Director about the same length of time, until six years ago, when he declined a reelection. Politically he is a friend of freedom and a believer in the principles advocated by Abraham Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Crabtree are the parents of the following named children: Effie, Minnie, Guy, Glenn, George and Asa. Mr. Crabtree has always maintained a reputation for strict integrity, and, aided by his faithful and industrious wife, has reared an excellent family. Both he and his sons are conscientious abstainers from the use of either tobacco or intoxicating liquors. Mr. Crabtree and his brother George were expert handlers of the axe in their younger days, and followed the example of Abraham Lincoln as rail-splitters, sometimes making one hundred rails in a short winter's day, besides attending to necessary "chores" on the farm. A day's work, at that time, covered the entire period from sunrise to sunset. The example of a life of probity and industry, which Mr. Crabtree has set for his children, is worthy of all praise, and has resulted in the rearing of men and women of high moral character.

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#### GEORGE W. CARPENTER.

George W. Carpenter, early settler of McHenry County, Ill., and later a pioneer of Wabashaw County, Minn., where he located in Territorial days, is descended from an old New England family. His father, Timothy P. Carpenter, was born in New Hampshire, became a blacksmith, and in early manhood removed to Meadville, Penn., where he worked at his trade for a number of years. Here he was married to Emeline Webster, the daughter of Russell

and Typhosa (Joslyn) Webster, who was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in August, 1812. The Webster family consisted of four brothers—Allen, Ephraim, Russell and Nathaniel—of whom the three first named removed to Crawford County, Pa., where they improved farms adjoining each other in that heavily timbered region, and there reared families. The Websters were of the same stock as Daniel Webster, the great statesman, and Allen, the older brother, served as a soldier of the War of 1812. Russell Webster was twice married, all his children being born of his first marriage, viz.: Sanford, Prudence, Julia, Emeline, Malinda, Adaline and Eliza. Although a farmer by occupation, Russell Webster had acquired some knowledge of the law, and was accustomed at times to act as local counsel in cases before Justices of the Peace. He was a wide reader of history and general literature, in religion a stanch Presbyterian, and in politics an old-line Whig. His daughters Malinda and Eliza received a liberal education at Meadville, Pa., and made a profession of teaching. Both came west and were teachers in McHenry County, Ill., and also in the State of Iowa. Russell Webster came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1847, but subsequently returned to Pennsylvania, and while on a visit with his daughter Eliza, at Dubuque, Iowa, died at the age of about eighty years.

Timothy P. Carpenter's children, all (except the two younger ones) born at Meadville, were: George W., born May 16, 1832; Sanford W., born Oct. 10, 1834, died in infancy; Russell W., born Sept. 16, 1837; Adaline A., born in 1839, and after coming to McHenry County, Ill., married Henry Wynn, and now resides in Marengo; Ellen, date of birth not given; Ann, born May 8, 1843; Amelia, born in June, 1850, died in infancy, and Hiram S., born Sept. 16, 1846. The latter became a soldier of the Civil War, enlisting in McHenry County. George W., the older brother and subject of this sketch, came to McHenry County, Ill., with his grandfather, Russell Webster, in 1847, which his father, Timothy P. Carpenter, had visited two years earlier. Timothy P. Carpenter did not remove to this region until some years later, when he came with his family, having been preceded by his son. The elder Mr. Carpenter settled with his family at Franklinville, where he worked at his trade, remaining until 1874,

when he removed to Wabashaw County, Minn., where his son George W., had previously located. Here he resided some years, but while on a visit to his daughter Ellen, died suddenly at the age of seventy-seven years. He was an industrious citizen of strong moral character, in politics an old-line Whig and early Republican, casting his vote for Abraham Lincoln for President, and in his home town, held several local offices.

George W. Carpenter, born in Meadville, Pa., May 16, 1832, as already stated, in early childhood went to live with his grandfather, Russell Webster, and still retains pleasant recollections of rural life upon the farm the green fields and shady woods; the farm stock—horses, cattle and sheep; and, best of all, the fruits, the apples and cider. He attended the district school, learned farming and when about fifteen years of age, as previously stated in this narrative, came with his grandfather Webster to McHenry County, making the journey by way of the lakes to Chicago and thence to McHenry County by teams. On his arrival in McHenry, he at once went to work for Pliny Hayward in Dorr Township, remaining seven years. During this time he attended school two winters in the McGee School House, and one winter each in Coral Township, in Franklinville, in Greenwood and in Woodstock, after which he spent some time in the Woodstock High School—the first taught in that place—under the principalship of Prof. David Richardson. In the meantime, at the age of sixteen years, he began work operating a threshing machine with his employer, Mr. Hayward. When he was eighteen years of age, he bought a team, and Mr. Hayward, who had always treated him with great kindness, let him have a threshing machine, and he began business on his own account. In this he succeeded well and, by the time he was twenty-three years old, he had accumulated a sum of \$1,000. Then, having spent a winter's term in the Woodstock High School, by the advice of his friend, Mr. Hayward, he engaged in teaching, conducting a school at Greenwood during the winter of 1853-54. Among his pupils here were Mr. John Short and Mrs. Senger. On Jan. 1, 1855, he was married at Woodstock, to Lucy J. Judd, daughter of Alvin Judd, a pioneer of Woodstock. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter spent the first year after their marriage on



a farm in Hartland Township, after which they living for a time in Woodstock, where he was engaged in the grocery business, but in May, 1856, removed to Wabashaw County, Minn., making the journey by Mississippi River steamer to Lansing, Iowa, and thence by team to their final destination. On this journey they had an interesting experience, meeting many pioneer home-seekers on the way to the far Northwest. On his arrival in Minnesota Mr. Carpenter located a claim on a quarter-section of timber and prairie land in what had been part of an Indian reservation, now in Plainview Township, Wabashaw County, built a log-house 18x20 feet, and improved his farm. He also resumed the management of a threshing machine, procuring his machine from J. I. Case, of Racine, Wis., and was one of the first engaged in this industry in that region. This business he followed successfully for twenty-five to thirty years, at first using horse-power, but during the last fifteen years employing steam-power. He added to his land, but in 1866 sold out and, in 1870, bought a farm in the adjoining Township of Highland. Mr. Carpenter was twice married, his children by his first wife (Lucy J. Judd) being Oscar E., born in McHenry County, Ill., Sept. 30, 1855, now a farmer in Minnesota; Clara A., born April 1, 1860, now the wife of James Forman of Woodstock, and William H., born Aug. 29, 1867, at present a machinist in Chicago. On Jan. 27, 1878, Mr. Carpenter married Mahala Maria Clark, a widow lady with two children—William F. and Lucy A. Clark—to whom he gave a good education. For the son Mr. Carpenter obtained an appointment as a cadet at West Point Military Academy, and he is now a captain in the regular army, having seen service during the Spanish-American War. The daughter, Lucy A., having graduated at a normal school, is now a teacher in Minnesota. While a resident of Minnesota, Mr. Carpenter served as a member of the School Board in his district. In 1896, having sold out his lands in Minnesota, he returned to Woodstock, McHenry County, where he has since resided. In his early days Mr. Carpenter received his first lessons in the struggle of life among the pioneers of McHenry County, and has never forgotten the friends of his youth and early manhood. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and of the Independent

Order of Odd Fellows, and in politics a Republican. Of genial and pleasant temperament, his well-known courtesy of manners proceeds naturally from a kindly heart.

#### CHARLES COVELL.

Charles Covell, Richmond, Ill., one of the early settlers of McHenry County, comes of sturdy Mohawk-Dutch ancestry, who were early settlers on the Mohawk River in New York. James Covell, the grandfather of Charles, was born on the Mohawk, and when a young man served as a soldier in the American Revolution. He married Lydia Black and settled on a farm in Onondaga County, near the village of Marcellus, where he was a pioneer citizen and was known as a Baptist exhorter. His children were: Asa, Lemuel, Jonathan, Elisha, Sallie and one who married a crockery manufacturer. Mrs. Covell died when seventy-five years of age, and Mr. Covell, in his old age, moved to Chautauqua County, and lived with his son Elisha. He was a man of strict integrity and enjoyed comfortable circumstances.

Elisha Covell was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., and having received a common-school education, followed the occupation of a contractor and builder, also owned and conducted a farm. He married Levina Copp, born in Onondaga County, N. Y., daughter of Timothy Copp. Mr. Covell worked at his trade in Marcellus, and in early days moved to Chautauqua County, where he followed his business at Ellery for several years, and then moved to Ripley, where he continued in the same line of work and bought a farm which his sons cultivated. After the death of his wife he moved to Michigan and lived with his children, and here he died when seventy-five years of age. In political opinion he was an old-line Whig.

Charles Covell, the principal subject of this article, was born July 10, 1819, in Marcellus, Onondaga County, N. Y., received the usual limited common-school education afforded in the pioneer schools, and was about seven years of age when his father moved to Ellery, Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he learned from his father the carpenter trade. He married at Westfield, Chautauqua County, Jan. 15, 1845, Phebe Persons, born Dec. 24, 1818, at Ox-



bridge, Worcester County, Mass., daughter of Paul and Nancy (Jones) Persons.

Paul Persons was born Dec. 29, 1780, at Oxbridge, Mass., son of John Parsons (as the name was then spelled), who was a descendant of Puritan English stock of Massachusetts. John Parsons was a shoemaker by trade, and his children were: Nathaniel, William, Paul and Sallie. Mr. Parsons died in Massachusetts at a venerable age. Paul Persons received the usual common-school education and learned the trade of a shoemaker. He married in Massachusetts, Feb. 2, 1803, Nancy Jones, and they lived in Oxbridge, Mass., until 1828, when they settled in Chautauqua County, on the "Holland Land Purchase." Here Mr. Persons bought 160 acres of improved land upon which there was a fine apple and peach orchard, and for which he paid \$16 an acre, this being considered a high price in those early days. He had been an extensive manufacturer of shoes in Massachusetts and, at times, very successful; but like many others in the business world, met with several reverses, at one time losing an entire cargo of shoes, in consequence of the death of the supervisor of the cargo from yellow fever. Mr. Persons, however, aided by his energetic wife, a woman of much energy who kept a large boarding-house, finally recovered from his losses. After living on his farm about eight years, he sold it for \$40 an acre and then, in company with his sons Paul and Samuel, purchased a woolen mill, which they operated for six months and lost in the panic of 1837. He then bought another farm in Chautauqua County, consisting of 100 acres of improved land, and upon which he built a large double brick house and resided here until his death. Mr. Persons was a member of the Presbyterian church and had been a deacon in the church for many years. In political opinions he was an old-line Whig. He was a man of energy and business capacity, highly respected and reared an excellent family.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Covell settled in Westfield, Chautauqua County, N. Y., where they lived eight years. He worked regularly at his trade, and assisted by his faithful wife, accumulated some \$2,000, which was partly earned by buying lots and building houses on them previous to selling again. Mrs. Covell had always been accustomed to work. She

worked in the woolen-mills when but a child, and could braid straw when she was three years of age. When old enough she learned the millinery and tailoress trade, and was thus capable of assisting her husband in a great many ways. In April, 1854, Mr. and Mrs. Covell moved to Wisconsin and settled on land in Sugar Creek Township, Walworth County, where he bought a partly improved farm of 120 acres, which he sold four years later and moving to Sugar Creek Village, there worked at his trade. They moved to Genoa in 1858, where Mr. Covell bought a flouring-mill in company with Albert Pierce, and in this venture lost most of his property. About 1860 they moved to Hebron Township and bought 137 acres of partly improved land, which he improved with good buildings—house, barn, etc.—shortly afterwards adding by purchase eighty acres more. Later Mr. Covell bought two other farms, one of 200 and another of 120 acres, and has since enjoyed a marked degree of prosperity. Mr. and Mrs. Covell are the parents of Lucian B., Emmett, Lottie, Flora, who died at the age of thirty-two years; Emily, who died when twenty years of age. Mrs. Covell is a devout member of the Methodist church and Mr. Covell has always contributed liberally towards its support. Politically Mr. Covell is a Republican and voted for Abraham Lincoln. The family moved to Richmond about 1885, where Mr. Covell bought property and built a substantial residence. Mrs. Covell is a lady of much mental ability, has always been a wide reader and was a teacher in the Bible Classes in the Congregational and Methodist churches for over six years. In her youth she received a common-school education, afterwards spent a term in the academy at Westfield, and then engaged in teaching in Chautauqua, N. Y., for several terms. When nearly seventy years of age she undertook the regular Chautauqua course and received a diploma in 1892.

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#### GEORGE W. CONN.

George W. Conn, banker and leading business man of Hebron, McHenry County, is of mixed English and Irish descent, through a family who came as Puritan emigrants to New England at an early day. His grandfather, William Conn, was born near Charlestown,

Mass., a suburb of Boston, and died there at the age of about fifty-six years. He was a brick manufacturer by occupation and had children named John, Jefferson, Thomas, Emory, Abigail and Lucy. Emory Conn, of this family, and father of the subject of this sketch, was born either in Charlestown or Cambridge, Mass., May 26, 1799, received a limited education in the common schools, and learned the trade of a blacksmith. He married in his native State, Edith Davenport, who was of English-Puritan ancestry and born in Granby, Mass., in August, 1805. After marriage he followed his trade chiefly in Massachusetts, except for a few years spent in New Hampshire. His children were: Louisa T., Andrew J., Abigail T., George W., Emory, Maria, Jane and Charles H. In politics Mr. Conn was a Democrat. His son, Charles H., was a soldier of the Civil War in a Massachusetts infantry regiment, serving three years and participating in many battles. Emory Conn, Sr., died at Cheshire, Mass., at the age of sixty-four years. He was an industrious, thrifty and respected citizen.

George W. Conn was born at Marlow, N. H., May 27, 1834, and when he was about one year old, his parents returned to Massachusetts, and spent the remainder of their lives chiefly in Cheshire. Here he received a common-school education, learned to be a farmer and, in November, 1856, married in Albany, N. Y., Frances E. Cole, who was born in Cheshire, Mass., April 19, 1837, the daughter of William and Lucy M. (Green) Cole. Both the Coles and the Greens were of New England Puritan ancestry and Lucy M. Green belonged to the same stock as Gen. Nathaniel Greene, of Revolutionary fame. After his marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Conn settled on her father's farm in Cheshire, Mass., where they remained until 1858, when his wife died, leaving one child, Ellen L., who married Herbert F. Jones. Mrs. Conn was a member of the Methodist church and highly respected. In 1861 Mr. Conn came to Illinois, arriving in Hebron, March 20th, where he engaged in farm work. On December 24, 1862, he married, as his second wife, Lena C. Wolfram, who was born at Stephentown, Rensselaer County, N. Y., Aug. 3, 1841, the daughter of Eli M. and Mercy (Shaw) Wolfram. The father was of Holland-Dutch ancestry and was born in Columbia, N. Y., in 1810.

While young he was a sailor, but afterwards became a farmer and settled in Stephentown, N. Y., and, in 1865, came to Hebron, McHenry County, where he followed farming, and where he died Aug. 4, 1869, aged about fifty-nine years. He was a member of the Methodist church, and in politics a Democrat. His children were: James, Porter, Lena, Ralph, Harriet and Mary. Porter and Ralph were soldiers in the Civil War.

After his second marriage, George W. Conn settled in Hebron Township and followed farming on rented land for ten years, when he bought 240 acres, one and a half miles east of Hebron. Later he bought 400 acres more, and has bought and sold until he is now the owner of 620 acres of farm lands in Hebron Township, besides residence property in Hebron. Here he engaged quite extensively in the dairying business, and was the first man in that township to have a milk-can made, the work being done at Richmond. Beginning in a small way, he was one of the first to engage in the manufacture of cheese in McHenry County on a large scale. For a time he had as many as 125 cows in his dairying business. At present he is President of the Hebron Creamery Company.

In 1890 Mr. Conn retired from active farm life, and, in 1897, in conjunction with his son, George W., Jr., and his son-in-law, Francis N. Torrence, engaged in the banking business, organizing the "Bank of Hebron," of which Mr. Conn is now the President. The bank has ample capital and, from its organization, has done a successful business. In politics Mr. Conn is a Republican and cast his second vote for Abraham Lincoln for President. He has been prominent in public affairs, served as Supervisor of his township seven years, as Road Commissioner six years, and as School Director for several years; has also been President of the Hebron Village Board for two years. Mr. Conn's life history proves him to have been a self-made man, and he has prospered through his industry and good management, and, as an employer, has contributed to the prosperity of others. His children by his second marriage are: Frances E., who married F. N. Torrence; Della J., married Lyman Z. Pierce; Howard J., married Bertha Dyke; George W., Jr., married Minnie Stone; Ida M., who died at nine years of age, and Erma G. Mr. Conn's career has been characterized by



a degree of integrity which has brought him the deserved confidence and respect of the community. His success is a just reward for a life of earnest industry and strenuous business activity.

#### WILLIAM H. COWLIN.

William H. Cowlin, veteran of the Civil War and pension attorney, Woodstock, Ill., was born at Tiverton, Devonshire, England, Nov. 19, 1844, the son of Abraham and Elizabeth (Copp) Cowlin. Both parents belonged to old English families. Abraham Cowlin, the father, was born in Somersetshire, England, and after his marriage to Elizabeth Copp, settled in Devonshire, which had been the home of his wife's family. In 1852 he came to America, sailing from Liverpool to New York. Coming directly to Chicago, he established there a shoe store, and later sent for his family, who came out in 1854, sailing from Plymouth, Eng., to Quebec, in the good ship *Lady Pelle*. After a stormy voyage occupying nine weeks and three days, the vessel arrived at Quebec, Sept. 7, 1854, and Mr. Cowlin, having met his family at Kingston, Canada, took them to Chicago. In 1857 he removed to Franklinville, McHenry County, where he established a shoe shop, remaining there three years. This was a thriving village on the stage road between Woodstock and Marengo. In 1860 Mr. Cowlin removed to Woodstock, where he engaged in the boot and shoe business, which, during the Civil War, he exchanged for the grocery business, continuing in the latter until his final retirement. He still survives, a respected and venerable citizen of Woodstock, at the age of over eighty years. He is a member of the Methodist church.

William H. Cowlin, the immediate subject of this sketch, was ten years old when he accompanied his mother and family across the ocean, and has a vivid recollection of that stormy passage. Having attended school for a short time before leaving England, and obtained a year's schooling while in Chicago, his educational opportunities were limited to two more winters in the public schools of McHenry County—one at Franklinton and the other at Woodstock. He has gained a practical education, however, by long business experience and as a student of good literature, having in the meantime devoted much time to the study of

history, especially that connected with our Civil War. In his youth he obtained under his father's instruction, a partial knowledge of the shoemaker's trade, and, in 1859, obtained employment as a clerk in the shoe-store of H. B. Burton, of Woodstock, remaining about eighteen months. Still later he was employed for a time as clerk in a general mercantile establishment in Woodstock, but, in the meantime the Civil War having broken out, in February, 1862, at the age of a little over seventeen years, he enlisted as a private in Company A, First Illinois Light Artillery, under command of Capt. Peter P. Wood, and was mustered out and honorably discharged at Springfield, Aug. 5, 1865, having served a period of three years and six months. Among the notable battles in which his battery took part may be named the following: Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Champion Hills, Black River, siege and battles about Vicksburg, including the assaults of May 19 and 22, 1863; Jackson, Miss.; Mission Ridge and the Atlanta campaign; the battles of Resaca, Dallas, New Hope Church, Big Shanty, Kenesaw Mountain, Decatur, Marietta and Atlanta, Ga. At the last named battle, which occurred July 22, 1864, Mr. Cowlin was taken prisoner, up to that date never having been absent from duty or in hospital for a day. Previous to this time he had been in every battle and skirmish, as cannoneer No. 3 in Squad 6, except at the battle of Shiloh, where he served as No. 2 in Squad 4. His capture was made in company with seventeen of his comrades belonging to his battery, in a hand to hand fight with the enemy. With the supply of clothing on his person, after being robbed of his hat by his captors, he was taken to the stockade prison at Andersonville, Ga., where they arrived July 7, 1864. The story of the sufferings which the more than thirty thousand captives endured in this notorious prison pen, has often been told, and has always excited mingled horror and indignation. Men in all stages of disease and suffering were herded together in the over-crowded quarters and subjected to the tortures of starvation, or compelled to subsist on food that was both insufficient in quantity and revolting on account of its foulness. The rations issued to the prisoners consisted of a piece of corn-bread, weighing about a half pound, sometimes a cup of



coarse corn-meal, ground with the cob, being issued in lieu of bread. Once a week or ten days, an ounce of poor beef or mule meat was served. Even the water which the prisoners were compelled to use was contaminated with filth, being taken from a creek which flowed through the congested camp, and those who sought to obtain a purer beverage often risked their lives by attempting to reach the spring or pools of water just beyond the "dead-line." Mr. Cowlin was without even a blanket to protect him from the changes of temperature for the first three weeks of his confinement, until furnished with one by a comrade in the hospital who had learned of his condition. Many dead were gathered up each morning, the "black-letter" day being one day in August, 1864, when the victims amounted to 127. While the Confederates were expecting capture by General Sherman, the prison camp was moved twice. During the last week of his confinement, Mr. Cowlin was attacked with swamp fever, and was kindly cared for by a Dr. Bates from Ohio, who, having settled in the South before the war, had been pressed into the Confederate service. While in prison Mr. Cowlin became acquainted with Mr. W. P. Morse, of Woodstock, whom he found sick and in a deplorable condition in the hospital, and to whom he was able to render valuable aid, possibly saving his life, thus laying the foundation of a warm friendship. During the ten months of his imprisonment Mr. Cowlin's weight had been reduced by starvation and disease from 136 pounds, with which he entered the prison, to 90 pounds; and for some six months after his release he was totally disqualified for business of any sort, besides being, to a certain extent, rendered an invalid for life. After his discharge and partial recovery from the effects of his imprisonment, he was engaged for nearly two years with W. H. Dwight, in the grocery trade; but, compelled to abandon this by the condition of his health, he next turned his attention to photography at Jefferson, Wis., for a few months, still later engaging in the boot and shoe business at Woodstock in partnership with J. S. Forrest. This latter business he continued with various partners for nine years, but for the past twenty-one years he has been engaged as claim agent and pension attorney, in which he has been fairly successful, securing many claims for pensions in

behalf of veterans of the war in different parts of the country.

Mr. Cowlin was married for the first time, Oct. 3, 1869, in Woodstock, Ill., to Susan M. Whitson, who was born at Waukegan, Ill., and they had three sons: Fred W., John A., and Thomas O. Mrs. Cowlin died in 1883, and he married Sept. 30, 1888, as his second wife, Eliza Boutelle, of Kensett, Iowa, and they have one daughter, Susanne Eunice. Mr. Cowlin's youngest son, Thomas O., was a soldier of the Spanish-American War of 1898, serving as Sergeant of Company G, Third Illinois Infantry, and being stationed for a time in Porto Rico. Emulating the example of his father, he did not lose a day from duty during the period of his enlistment. Mr. Cowlin is a member of Post No. 108, Grand Army of the Republic, Woodstock. His patriotic service for his country as a Union soldier during the period of its great peril, has won for him, in an eminent degree, the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens. This has been indicated, in part at least, by his election by the people of his township, to the position of Township Collector for two terms. A straightforward and representative citizen, he is an excellent type of the patriotic veteran of the Civil War, well-read and well-informed in reference to the history of the great struggle in which he was an active factor.

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#### HARRY CROSS.

Harry Cross, chief inspector of machines for the Oliver Typewriter Company, Woodstock, Ill., as an inventor and machinist, is a gentleman of more than ordinary ability, and to him are due a number of important improvements in the Oliver Typewriter. As head inspector, every machine turned out by the company comes under his critical eye, and is only pronounced perfect and fitted to be placed upon the market when it has received his approval. Mr. Cross was born in Birmingham, England, Feb. 23, 1860, the son of Thomas Cross, an edge-tool manufacturer, who at the time was conducting a large manufacturing establishment in that city. He received his education in the common schools of his native city, and, at the age of about seventeen years, entered into the employment of a sewing-machine factory in Birmingham, where he was thoroughly

instructed in the business of a machinist. He continued his connection with this establishment until 1884, when he emigrated to America, going directly to Hamilton, Ont., where he found employment in a sewing-machine factory with which he remained one and a half years. Then going to Toledo, Ohio, he was engaged in the same line of business there for some time. His next business connection was with a manufacturing establishment of similar character at Belvidere, Ill., with which he remained nine years. By this time he had gained a wide experience and complete mastery of his profession. In 1895 he removed to Woodstock, McHenry County, and became head inspector for the Oliver Typewriter Company, for which he was especially well fitted. During his connection with this concern Mr. Cross has sought in every way to add to the advantages of the Oliver typewriting machine, and has turned his inventive faculties to good account by the invention of a number of improvements upon which he has obtained patents, which are considered by the manufacturers of great value. Mr. Cross is a gentleman of genial temperament and pleasant manners, and by his frank and kindly disposition has won the friendship of his business associates and the general public.

#### JOSEPH W. CRISTY.

Mr. Cristy comes of that sturdy Scotch-Irish stock, to mention which is to suggest physical strength and courage, no less than keen intelligence, resolute purpose, strong will and uncompromising integrity. Mr. Cristy's American ancestors were among the early settlers of New Hampshire, his grandfather, Moses Cristy, being one of the pioneers of New Boston, in that State. He was noted for piety and a blameless life, a member of the Congregational Church, and a citizen of substance and influence. He was a hard-working farmer, and died at the age of seventy-two years. His son John—the father of Joseph W.—was raised upon the paternal farm and received a good English education. He acquired the profession of a surveyor, in the practice of which he was remarkably successful, by virtue of his natural aptitude, close application and uncompromising integrity. In 1829 he removed from New Hampshire to Vermont, settling in the

town of Johnson, where he taught school for many years. While living at New Boston he married Frances Dodge, who bore him one son, Ephraim. This wife having died, Mr. Cristy married at Topsfield, Mass., Roxana Baker, whose family was among the earliest and most distinguished of the New England settlers. The issue of this second marriage was seven children—Rebecca, John B., Mary B., Harriet, Robert C., Joseph W. and Francis E. The old homestead farm is at present owned and tilled by his son, Robert C. John Cristy died in 1866, full of years and honored by all who knew his many admirable qualities of mind and heart. He inherited from his father a quick intelligence, a keen sense of honor and a moral sense of the highest order.

Joseph W. Cristy, born in New Boston, N. H., Sept. 28, 1829, was a mere infant when his parents removed from his native State to Vermont. His educational advantages were better than those of most boys of his time, attendance upon the district school being supplemented by a course at the Johnson Academy. He early displayed mechanical ability of a high order, becoming a skilled carpenter and cabinet-maker while yet a mere youth. At the age of twenty-three he found employment at Reading, Mass., and in 1854, entered the piano manufactory of W. P. Emerson, at Boston. His natural insight and close attention to details soon gained for him rapid and steady advancement. He remained with Mr. Emerson for six years, at the end of which time he was receiving seven dollars per day. Finding his health giving way, however, he quit the factory, to seek once more the pure air of the Vermont hills. Returning to Johnson, in 1859, he bought a small farm.

Meanwhile he had married at Johnson, Vt., on Nov. 30, 1856, Sarah L. Whiting, a daughter of Zachariah and Lucinda (Dodge) Whiting. She had been a schoolmate of his at Johnson, and, while he was in Emerson's employ, he constructed for her a piano, which is yet in an admirable state of preservation, and as tuneful as in its earliest days.

In 1865 Mr. Cristy came west, first settling in Iroquois County, Ill. There he bought and improved two farms of 160 acres each, selling each at a profit. His next move was to Ringwood, McHenry County, Ill., and there he has resided since 1868. For several years he con-



ducted a general store, and this, with other ventures, has earned for him a handsome competency while his intelligence, moral character, sound sense and conservative public spirit have made him one of the county's prominent and influential citizens. He has had not a little experience in the conduct of public affairs, having served as Selectman and Assessor at Johnson, Vt., and as Supervisor and member of the Board of Review of McHenry County for eight years. He was also the enumerator for McHenry Township for the United States Census of 1900, and has held the office of Notary Public for a quarter of a century. His success is chiefly the result of his own effort, industry and integrity being its corner stones. On this foundation he has reared a structure of which he may well be proud, its pinnacle being the unswerving confidence of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Cristy's first wife died in 1886, a devout member of the Baptist Church, a faithful wife and mother, and a woman held in high esteem by her neighbors for her kindly, sympathetic nature. She was the mother of three children—William A., Joseph E. and Walter W. The youngest son died in 1888, in his twentieth year. William A. is a Justice of the Peace, and represents McHenry Township on the Board of Supervisors. The second matrimonial union of Mr. Cristy was with Mrs. Eleanor M. Irish, whose maiden name was Meigs. She was born in Johnson, Vt., her father, Dr. John Meigs, being a prominent physician of that town, and her mother, Laura Cristy, a daughter of Thomas Waterman.

#### TIMOTHY J. DACY.

Experience teaches that it is the energetic individual who produces the most powerful effect upon himself and others, who illustrates and enforces the lesson that a man perfects himself more by work than by reading—that it is life rather than literature, action rather than study, character rather than learning, that tends to make a man successful and a benefit to mankind.

Biographies of men who have succeeded in life are instructive and helpful to others; some of the best are very efficient teachers. The valuable examples which they furnish of the power of self-help, of patient purpose, earnest effort and steadfast integrity, exhibit, in

language not to be misunderstood, what is in the power of each to accomplish for himself, and eloquently illustrate the efficacy of self-respect and self-reliance, in enabling men of the humblest rank to work out for themselves an honorable career and a satisfactory competency.

The instances of men who, by dint of persevering application and energy, have raised themselves from poverty to positions of usefulness, wealth and influence in society, are indeed so numerous that they have long ceased to be regarded as exceptional. It might be said that early encounter with difficulties and adverse circumstances is one of the necessary and indispensable conditions of success. "Self-reliance and self-denial will teach a man to drink out of his own cistern and eat his own sweet-bread, and learn to labor truly to get his own living, and carefully expend the good things committed to his trust." It is examples of self-help in our own communities that are of the most value to the young in our midst. Reading of successful men is valuable, but if we know of instances in our own neighborhood, the lesson is more practically and deeply impressed.

McHenry County has many examples of self-made men, but no one of them is more worthy of mention in this work than that of Timothy J. Dacy, whose life of honest struggle from the condition of a poor Irish boy to that of a wealthy and prominent citizen, is a lesson for any lad whose environments have apparently condemned him to poverty—for no one could make a start in life with fewer opportunities than he. He was born in Ireland in 1838, son of Jeremiah and Mary (Regan) Dacy. When about twelve years of age he came to America with his parents and three children of the family—Cornelius, Daniel and Mary. After a few days at sea the mother died and the children saw her remains committed to the deep. The father and family, on arrival in this country, came immediately to McHenry County and settled in the township of Hartland, where Jeremiah Dacy obtained employment with the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company. As he was in meager circumstances the children were early thrown upon their own resources, and young Timothy, deprived of the comfort which the kind words and encouragement of a loving mother would have given, entered upon a career of stress and hardship, making his



home chiefly with Robert Forrest. He had but the meager advantages of the district schools, which he attended for a few months during the winter seasons, gaining most of his education by practical experience and contact with the world. He continued at farm-work until about twenty-three years of age, and was noted for his industry and willingness. In 1861 he came to Woodstock and obtained employment with John J. Murphy, who was then engaged in buying grain and wool. His early struggles had taught him the value of a dollar, and he carefully saved his money. In 1863 he had an opportunity to invest his savings in a patent-right, and meeting with great success in disposing of the territory he had purchased, finally bought the entire patent. He then traveled throughout the United States and Canada, selling territory, everywhere meeting with phenomenal success.

In 1865 he returned to Woodstock, having accumulated a sufficient capital to enable him to engage in the business of buying farm products. He followed this pursuit for a few years, when he engaged in the agricultural implement business with W. B. Austin. This venture proved very successful, but the partnership was soon dissolved by the retirement of Mr. Austin, whose interest was purchased by Mr. Dacy, who thereafter conducted the business in his own name. In March, 1880, the business plant was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of more than \$20,000. Mr. Dacy had only \$2,000 insurance and the blow was a severe one. The result of years of toil and privation had been wiped out in a few hours, but he was undaunted, and at once set about the task of replacing the buildings and renewing the stock. With the energy that had always characterized his actions, he issued new advertising matter in all parts of the country, and at once began an extensive auction sale of farm machinery and, for some time, conducted the largest auction of the kind ever undertaken in the county. Later he formed a partnership with Hon. J. D. Donovan, afterwards Mayor of Woodstock, who had been in his employ many years and proved himself a capable and able business man. This partnership continued three years, when it was dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Dacy becoming sole owner by the purchase of his partner's interest, after which he conducted the business in his own

name up to the time of his death. Mr. Dacy was proud of the business he had established, and in it found one of the greatest enjoyments of life. He was always of an active, energetic temperament, and when he approved any business enterprise, it was because of its merits. Possessed of far more than ordinary business shrewdness, he was seldom wrong in estimating the motives and purposes of men. Warm-hearted, cheerful and friendly, he was beloved by his children and family. Politically he was a Democrat of the Jacksonian type, and was always active in politics, but could never be induced to accept office for himself, except at one time consenting to serve as Alderman of his ward. He was public-spirited and always willing and ready to render his aid to any movement that would benefit the city. He took a deep interest in the County Fair and did as much as any one to contribute to its success. In business he was well known as honest and straightforward.

Mr. Dacy married in Woodstock, in January, 1869, Lucinda Donnelly, born in Woodstock, daughter of the late Hon. Neill Donnelly, a pioneer of the county, of straight Celtic blood. Mrs. Dacy is well educated, having attended the public school in Woodstock and Todd Seminary. She has devoted her life to her home and children. Mr. and Mrs. Dacy were the parents of children named: Charles F., Albert E., Alice B. and George H. Mr. Dacy realized in his own case the lack of a liberal education, and was careful that his children should enjoy the best advantages possible.

Charles F. attended the University at Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind. He is the administrator of the Dacy estate, which is one of the largest in McHenry County. He is also engaged in the lumber business in Woodstock. Fraternally he is a member of the "Elks," a young man of excellent character and of promising business prospects. Albert E., also a graduate of Notre Dame and of Harvard Law School, is a successful lawyer and member of the law-firm of Pam, Calhoun & Glennon, Chicago. Alice B., a graduate of Madison (Wis.) University, is a young lady of high literary culture, and has taught literature in the high school at Woodstock. George, the youngest son, is still at home attending the high school.

Mr. Dacy was suddenly cut down in the prime of life, in the midst of his successful

enterprises and hurried to an untimely death, being almost instantly killed by a train on the Northwestern Railway. His death was a severe loss to Woodstock and cast a gloom over the entire community.

#### NEILL DONNELLY.

Neill Donnelly (deceased), father of Mrs. Timothy J. Dacy, and a pioneer settler of McHenry County, was born in County Derry, Ireland, May 18, 1816, and came to America with two elder brothers, Barney and Andrew, about 1828, being then twelve years old. The brothers first located at Lowell, Mass., where they found employment in the woollen mills and where Neill gained a common-school education, to which he afterwards added by wide reading and keen observation. While young he learned the art of weaving in one of the large woollen mills in Lowell, and also worked for a time in a manufactory of agricultural implements. When about twenty years of age he married in Cambridge, Mass., Mary McElroy, who was born in America, the daughter of James McElroy, a native of Ireland who came to America with his family about 1822. He and his wife soon after came to Hartland Township, McHenry County, where, in 1836, Andrew Donnelly had located and opened Donnelly's tavern, a well-known hostelry of pioneer days. Here Neill Donnelly entered 160 acres of Government land and began opening a farm, but his first year's crop having been destroyed by fire, leaving his wife with his brother Andrew, he returned to Lowell, Mass., and for the next two years worked in a factory there. Then returning to Hartland Township, he built a log cabin and resumed work on his farm and finally established for himself and family a comfortable home. In 1849 he was elected Sheriff of McHenry County, when he removed to Woodstock, where he later engaged in the mercantile business, and which became his permanent home, residing there until his death, which occurred in 1883. In religious belief Mr. Donnelly was a Roman Catholic. He was a trusted, public-spirited citizen, was a member of the building committee, having charge of the erection of the McHenry Court House, served as President of the Board of Village Trustees, and was the first Mayor of Woodstock after its

incorporation as a city, filling the office for several terms. In his political views he was a War (or Douglas) Democrat and, at one time, a candidate for Congress, coming nearer an election than any other Democrat after the District became Republican. He was an advocate of public improvements and the first special assessment ordinance of the city of Woodstock was passed during his incumbency as Mayor. He was also a friend of education and served as President of the Board of School Directors for a time at an early period in the history of Woodstock, and saw to it that his children received the benefits of a liberal education.

Mr. and Mrs. Neill Donnelly were the parents of the following named children: Elizabeth A., Mary J., Lucinda (Mrs. Dacy), Frank P., Charles H., Julia E. and Hugh T.—besides three others who died in childhood.

Charles H. Donnelly, of this family, was born in Woodstock, Ill., Aug. 22, 1855, and received his education in the public schools of his native town and at Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind., from which he graduated in 1873. He then read law with Messrs. Slavin and Smith and, at different times, with each of these, who were prominent members of the McHenry County bar, and on Jan. 8, 1877, was admitted to practice, entering upon the profession which he has since followed with notable success. He served as City Attorney of Woodstock for seven years, and was Captain of Company G, Third Regiment Illinois National Guard, for six years. In 1890 he was elected County Judge of McHenry County and in June, 1897, was elected to the Circuit Bench, his term expiring in June, 1903, when he was re-elected for a second term.

Judge Donnelly was united in marriage, at Woodstock, Ill., May 2, 1888, to Nina C. Blakeslee, born in McHenry County, the daughter of Gervaise and Halina R. Blakeslee. He and his wife are the parents of two daughters—Mary and Helen.

Fraternally Judge Donnelly is associated with the Calvary Commandery A. F. & A. M., Woodstock, and a member of the Mystic Shrine, Medina Temple, Chicago; is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has held the office of Noble Grand of the Grand Encampment.

From early manhood he has taken a deep in-



terest in politics, and, as an earnest champion of the principles of the Republican party since 1880, has taken an active part in every political campaign. As indicated by his public record, no man is more widely or more favorably known in McHenry County than Judge Donnelly. Of urbane and genial temperament and agreeable manners, he treats with kindly courtesy all brought in contact with him either officially or in personal relations.

#### JAMES A. DUFFIELD.

Mr. Duffield (the name originally being spelled Duffield) is a member of a pioneer family which came to McHenry County at an early day. The Duffields are, in all probability, of original Irish stock, and are Children of the Gael. They were early settlers in the North of Ireland, coming there from Scotland, and have a strong infusion of Scotch blood. They were afterwards residents of London, England, where tradition says large estates formerly belonged to them. Here the family intermarried with the English and, in Colonial America, since that period, have intermarried freely with the Americans, and are thus of Irish, Scotch, English and American descent, the founders of the American branch having settled in Virginia in colonial times. John Duffield (as he spelled the name) was born in Virginia, married Elizabeth Frame of the same State and lived the life of a farmer in Braxton County (now West Virginia). In 1837, accompanied by all his children except Robert, the oldest, and James, who had preceded him by several years, he emigrated to McHenry County, Ill. The children accompanying him were Devid and family, Isabel (wife of John Given, without children), Thomas and family, Charles and wife (no children), and Allen, a young man. The journey was made from Braxton, descending Elk River with their household effects, by flat-boat to Charleston, at the junction with the Kanawha. Being unable to sell their boat here, they proceeded down the Kanawha and the Ohio to Cincinnati. Having sold their boat at Cincinnati, they took a steamer to St. Louis and thence, by the Mississippi and the Illinois to Ottawa, Ill. Here, having hired teams, they made the rest of the journey, arriving in what is now Dorr Township, McHenry County, Nov. 15, 1837. The father and his two sons, Charles

and Allen, settled on a tract of 320 acres of timber and prairie land, where the former (being already advanced in years) built a log house and opened a farm, upon which he spent the remainder of his days, dying at the age of about eighty years. He was one of the early pioneers of this region and highly respected for his sterling worth and integrity.

John L. Duffield, son of the preceding, was born in 1796, at Lexington, Ky., where his father had settled as a pioneer, soon after the birth of his son returning to West Virginia. Here the latter received such limited education as was common in the schools of that period, became a farmer and married Anna Ball, a native of Braxton County, born about 1798. Their children were: Elizabeth, Evaline, Mary, John Allen, Thomas Jefferson, Christopher M., James A., Benjamin F. and Robert L. (born Sept. 7, 1837) and Lemuel C., all born in West Virginia except the last, who was born in McHenry County. After the removal from West Virginia in 1837, he first located on a tract of 160 acres of timber land in what is now Dorr Township, remaining five years, but did not perfect his title, afterwards purchasing, at second-hand, 120 acres of land in what is now Greenwood Township, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying Dec. 10, 1845. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist church. In politics he was an old Line Whig, and a straightforward, hard-working pioneer.

James A. Duffield, whose name heads this article, and son of John L., mentioned in the preceding paragraph, was born in Braxton County, W. Va., June 1, 1830, brought to McHenry County by his parents in 1837, and remembers scenes and incidents of the journey which he greatly enjoyed. In 1838 he attended what was probably the first school ever taught in the Walkup school-house. This was a log-house probably built in 1838, about 18 by 20 feet, with "shake" roof, a puncheon floor and huge fire-place. The teacher was a Miss Parsons, followed by James C. Button, who is yet living. James A. attended school here at different times until 1844, acquiring a common-school education. He learned to farm meanwhile and, in 1847, began the shoemaker's trade with Michael McCahill, a pioneer shoemaker of Woodstock. On July 21, 1850, he was married in McHenry Township, to Charlotte H. Boomer, born in New York State, Jan. 29, 1832,



the daughter of Aaron and Cena (Sheffield) Boomer.

Mr. Boomer was a native of the State of New York and a carpenter and bridge-builder by trade. His children were Charlotte H., Adeline, Adelia, Lucretia and Linus. The elder Boomer came to Illinois in 1845, making the journey with horse teams, stopping for a short time in Lake County. Here he bought 60 acres of land, which he improved, making a good farm, but sold it in 1853, and moved to the town of McHenry, where he worked at his trade. He and his wife spent their last days with their son-in-law, Mr. Dufield, Mr. Boomer dying at the age of seventy-five years, and his wife about eighty. Both were members of the Christain church and highly respected. Their son Linus enlisted in 1862 as a private soldier in Company F, Ninety-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, took part in many battles, including the Vicksburg campaign, and received an honorable discharge at the close of his term of service. He is yet living in Bent County, Colo.

To return to the history of Mr. Dufield: After his marriage in 1850, he settled on a farm, buying 40 acres of land, but in 1852, after spending some time at the home of his father-in-law, and residing for a time at Woodstock, he located in McHenry, where he remained nearly ten years. In September, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, serving until honorably discharged on account of disability incurred in the line of duty at Black Creek, Va., May 18, 1862. He was promoted for meritorious conduct to Sergeant, but was thrown from his horse while on duty near Alexandria, Va., receiving severe injuries. These included the dislocation of his right hip, the breaking of his right shoulder and the tearing of his right ribs from the breast-bone. He was picked up insensible, but objecting to being placed in the hospital, was finally sent home, where he arrived Dec. 29, 1862. He has never fully recovered his normal health and has been unable to perform hard labor. He learned the photographer's trade, which he followed from 1863 to 1872, and has resided successively in Harvard, Marengo and McHenry, in each of these places serving as constable a total of nine years. Then, returning to Woodstock, he remained four years with his son, the editor of the "McHenry County Democrat." Having

again been elected constable, he has served continuously twelve years, being still in office, and has also been Deputy Sheriff six years, under Sheriffs Badger and Church. Politically Mr. Dufield is a staunch Democrat, but was an original Republican, casting his first vote for John C. Fremont for President in 1856. In 1878 he voted for Samuel J. Tilden and has since voted the Democratic ticket. His children are John A., Marion C. and Inez. There are few men better known in McHenry County, and his long official career gives evidence of his personal popularity.

#### JOHN AARON DUFIELD.

John Aaron Dufield, late editor "McHenry County Democrat," Woodstock, Ill., was born in Woodstock, Ill., May 26, 1851, the son of James and Charlotte (Boomer) Dufield. He received a common-school education, including a partial course in Woodstock High School, and, in 1865, when fourteen years of age, began to learn the printer's trade at Belvidere, Ill., where his father resided for two years. His first efforts in the printer's art were put forth in the office of the "Boone County Advertiser." In 1867 he went to Harvard, McHenry County, and there found employment with the "Harvard Independent" until 1869, when he entered into the service of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, being employed for some time in the yards of that line. Coming to Woodstock in 1871, he was employed for about three years in the office of the "Woodstock Sentinel," later becoming foreman in the office of the "New Era" at Woodstock. In 1875 he returned to Harvard as foreman of "The Independent," but in October, 1877, again came to Woodstock, and in partnership with his brother, M. C. Dufield, who was also a practical printer, bought the "McHenry County Democrat." This paper had been established in April previous, by A. H. Bradbury, and after being published three months, had failed and been closed out. The Dufields issued their first number of "The Democrat" under date of October 6, 1877, and under their capable management the paper proved a success from the start. "The Democrat" under Mr. Dufield's management, was fearless in the advocacy of Democratic principles and measures, and, while published in a Republican

stronghold, always exerted a strong influence in local affairs. During the past few years it has devoted much space to matter bearing upon local history, biographic and otherwise, and its files have become a valuable depository of information on these lines. On October 11, 1902, Mr. Dufield sold out his paper to the McHenry County Republican Company, thus terminating a journalistic career which had been maintained uninterruptedly for twenty-five years. Early in 1903 he engaged in the stationery and job-printing business, on the first of January opening an establishment in the Kellogg Block, in Woodstock, which has proved quite successful.

Mr. Dufield was married in Woodstock, by the Rev. R. K. Todd, Dec. 25, 1877, to Miss Ada M. Jewett, who was born in Dorr Township, McHenry County, June 20, 1854, the daughter of Henry and Marie (Woodward) Jewett. Her parents came from Bennington, Vt., and were of old colonial families of English descent. Henry Jewett, the father, who was a successful farmer and a pioneer of McHenry County, was born near Bennington, Vt., Aug. 17, 1801, and married in 1827 Marie Woodward, who was a native of New Hampshire. After marriage they settled on a farm, where they remained until 1842, when they came to McHenry County. Here Mr. Jewett entered Government land and opened up a valuable farm upon which he lived until 1860, when he retired, residing in Woodstock until his death, which occurred in 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Jewett were the parents of children named Johnson W. (deceased), Joseph P., Susan (deceased), Walter P., Frank M., Lucy H., Ada M. and Harriet.

John A. Dufield is one of the self-made men of McHenry County. Beginning while a mere lad to learn the "art preservative," he has won his way solely by his own persevering efforts and personal attention to business. While of a quiet, retiring disposition, he is possessed of a strong individuality and much reserve force and, being once fixed in his purpose, he keeps on to the end. Among his fellow-craftsmen in McHenry County, Mr. Dufield stands as representative of the liberal and whole-souled printer. While a champion of political principles, he has never been a mere seeker for office; he served one term as Postmaster

by appointment of President Cleveland. Mr. and Mrs. Dufield are the parents of two children: Opal and Allan J.

#### OSCAR F. DUFIELD.

Oscar F. Dufield, descended from sterling Scotch-Irish and English ancestry, is the grandson of Isaac Dufield, who was a native of Virginia and became a pioneer farmer in Randolph County, now in West Virginia. Isaac Dufield married Isabel Given, who bore him children named Abraham, Robert, John, Benjamin and Isabel, the latter becoming the wife of Benjamin Green, a planter of that section who had a large number of slaves. This Mr. Dufield died in middle life, leaving a family of small children. Henry Dufield, the father of Oscar F., was born in Randolph County, W. Va., Jan. 14, 1803, became a farmer like his father before him, and was a noted marksman with the rifle and a successful hunter. He was married in Bath County, Va., to Anna Given, daughter of Robert and Margaret Elliot (Bott) Given. Robert Given's family consisted of three sons and six daughters: Samuel, who married Mary Gibson, of Bath County, Va.; William, married Elizabeth Sands of Nicholas County, W. Va.; Adam, married Diana Prian, of Nicholas County; Nancy, now Mrs. McEvoy; Sally, the wife of Samuel Gibson; Jane, married David Dufield; Margaret, married James Earl; Polly, who married George Dufield, and Anna, whose marriage to Henry Dufield has already been mentioned. According to the statement of Henry Dufield, his grandmother was of Scotch blood, while his grandfather was of English origin. In his youth Henry Dufield attended the district school and assisted in the support of the family by working on the farm. After his marriage he cleared up a new farm of about 100 acres in a heavily timbered region, and here all his children were born and here he continued to reside until about 1846. His children were: Isaac B., who died in California; Thaddeus, who died in Henry County, Mo.; Oscar F., Margaret, who married H. C. Murphy of Knox County, Ill.; Sarah J., who married E. Dufield (now deceased), of Rock Island, Ill., and Adelaide, who married John M. Elliot. In 1846, Henry Dufield and family,



accompanied by John Frame and family, moved to McHenry County, Ill., the party traveling on the same flat-boat to Charleston, W. Va., where they took steamer to La Salle, Ill., thence making the journey by wagon to McHenry County, where they arrived April 17. Here he settled on the farm in Dorr Township where his son Oscar now lives. This land he entered at the Government Land Office, except forty acres of timber which he bought from a Mr. Safford. Mrs. Dufield died in West Virginia, Feb. 3, 1843, before the removal of the family to Illinois. She was a devoted member of the Methodist church, with which she united in her youth. Mr. Dufield was a citizen of the true pioneer type and, by a life of untiring industry, improved his farm, erecting on it substantial buildings which still exist in good condition. He was a firm believer in law and order, and filled a number of important positions in which he assisted to promote the best interests of the community. In political opinions he was a Jacksonian Democrat of pronounced and independent views. His death occurred Oct. 2, 1895, at the age of nearly ninety-three years.

Oscar F. Dufield, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Braxton County, W. Va., Oct. 2, 1839, and was but seven years of age when brought by his father to McHenry County, Ill. He attended school in Queen Ann Prairie, his first teacher being Oliver Burr; was afterwards a pupil of Mr. George K. Bunker, and still later in the Todd Seminary, which he attended one term. He was reared to the life of a farmer which he has pursued ever since and, while remaining on the old homestead, cared for his father in an honored old age. On Jan. 1, 1863, Mr. Dufield was married, in Dorr Township, to Francena Frame, born in Braxton County, W. Va., Dec. 7, 1843, the daughter of John and Rachael (Knight) Frame. John Frame was a native of Nicholas County, W. Va., born Feb. 1, 1822, the son of David and Susan (Bail) Frame, grew up to be a farmer and, on Nov. 12, 1840, married Rachael Knight. Their children were: Leonard, who died in St. Louis, aged about fifty-nine years; Francena; Elizabeth Ann; Mary Susannah, who died after her marriage; Louisa Jane; Charles Robert, who died in infancy; Cynthia; Benjamin F., and John Edward. Francena Frame—afterwards Mrs.

Oscar F. Dufield—was only two years old when the Dufield and Frame families came from West Virginia to McHenry County, Ill., as previously stated. Her father, Mr. Frame, settled in Greenwood Township, where he bought 120 acres of Government land and opened up the farm now occupied by Mr. Frank Austin. After living here some years he sold out and removed to Abingdon, Knox County, but finally returned to McHenry, where he died soon after—his death taking place Jan. 26, 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Frame were members of the Methodist church and, in politics, he was a Democrat. He was a typical pioneer, an expert with the use of the broad-ax, and, after coming to McHenry county, hewed out the timbers which furnished frame-works for many buildings.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Dufield settled on his father's homestead, which he finally bought before the death of the latter. This farm is pleasantly located within a few minutes walk of the court house in Woodstock. It is a place of natural beauty, including eighty acres of woodland. The farm contains 240 acres in all, and has upon it two streams of flowing water fed by never-failing springs. There is a beautiful lake upon the premises, from which the farm takes the name of "Lake View." The lake has a depth of thirty-five to forty feet, is fed by living springs, and is filled by fine fish for game and table purposes, which appear to have found their way into the lake by an outlet into the Nippersink.

Mr. Dufield is a practical farmer, keeps his farm upon which he has lived for the past fifty-six years, in a high state of cultivation, raising upon it large crops with fine herds of Jersey cattle and other varieties of stock, and the homestead, with its excellent buildings, is pervaded by a general atmosphere of thrift and comfort. Mr. and Mrs. Dufield have two daughters, Carrie Ann and Mary Gertrude, who have received a liberal education in the Woodstock High School and are ladies of intelligence and refinement. The family attend the Methodist church. In politics Mr. Dufield is a Democrat, imbibing his principles both from early training and from careful and intelligent study of the doctrines of the party as taught by such early patriots as Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson. He has always been a friend of education and has been a



School Director in his district for a quarter of a century. Of exemplary habits and pleasant manners, his life has been characterized by stanch honesty and fair-dealing, entitling him to the praise implied in the term, "a good American citizen."

#### ARTIMUS R. DUNHAM.

Artemus Dunham, one of the few remaining pioneers of McHenry County, was born at Springville, Erie County, N. Y., April 23, 1823, son of Elijah and Amy (Humphrey) Dunham. Elijah Dunham, the father, probably of English Puritan ancestry, was born in New York State, June 20, 1784. Jan. 9, 1808, he married Amy Humphrey, who was born at Hartford, Conn., May 20, 1791. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dunham settled in Springville, N. Y., where they lived until all of their children except Harriet were born. After a short residence at Town Line, N. Y., they removed to North East, Erie County, Penn., where they lived a few years. Their children were Edward, born Sept. 21, 1810; Alvira, born March 6, 1813; Lurinda, born June 23, 1815; Samantha, born Oct. 12, 1817; Almira, born Oct. 28, 1821; Alfred, born Aug. 28, 1826, and Harriet, born at Town Line, Erie County, Penn., April 27, 1829. Elijah Dunham died March 25, 1864; Amy, his wife, died May 29, 1866; Edward, died Sept. 8, 1857; Alvira, died Feb. 7; Harriet E., died May 30, 1897; Alfred, died Jan. 20, 1899. Edward, who was a farmer in Illinois and later in Wisconsin, married Mary Devore; Alvira, married Darius Carr, a farmer of Iowa; Lurinda, married Joseph H. Bulard, a jeweler of Marengo; Samuel, married Samantha Bulard of Marengo; Alfred E., married Martha Parker, a widow (nee Truesdale).

Artimus Dunham received a limited common-school education, attending the district school in the winter and working at farm labor during the summer. He was ten years old in the spring of 1833, when his father moved to La Porte County, Ind. They made the journey with a yoke of oxen and a large four-wheeled wagon, and also drove with them two cows that supplied an abundance of milk and butter throughout the entire trip. Mr. Dunham's father settled on wild land in Door Prairie, La Porte County, Ind., and at first built a board shanty, but soon erected a good log house. He

plowed a few acres of land and raised a good crop of sod-corn the first year. In 1836 Mr. Dunham found that another party had entered the land upon which he had settled and that his claim was void, but the owner gave him a yoke of small oxen for peaceable possession of the property, and Mr. Dunham again journeyed westward for a home. In the spring of 1836, accompanied by one of his sons, he came to McHenry County in search of a homestead. He selected land on the site of the old Indian Village on Coral Hill, built a log cabin and moved his family there in the fall of the same year. Mr. Dunham found that a spot of about seven acres of this land had previously been cultivated by the Indians, which was probably a natural opening in the woods, as the Indians were not accustomed to clear away heavy timber. The old hills where corn had been grown were well marked, and Mr. Dunham found that one yoke of oxen could easily plow this piece of land, while on the wild prairie, it required from three to six. Mr. Dunham improved his farm and made a very comfortable home, where both he and his wife died. They were members of the Baptist church in which Mr. Dunham was a deacon and one of the founders of the church in his neighborhood. Politically he was a Jacksonian Democrat, but became a Republican when that party was organized.

Artimus Dunham came with his parents to Coral Township, when thirteen years of age, and well remembers the journey and the appearance of the deserted Indian land upon which his father settled. But little of the wigwams that had previously stood there remained, but the poles for some of their principal structures, including the main wigwam or council-house, as it was called, were still there, although the strips of bark, with which it had been covered, had been removed by the early white settlers, to make floors for the lofts of their cabins. There was an old Indian dancing floor on his father's farm, smooth and level and trodden very hard. There was an Indian burying ground about twenty rods west of the house, and the graves were well rounded and when opened, as they were by the first comers, the remains were found well protected with puncheons. Many relics had been taken from the Indian graves, such as beads, silver breast-pins of large size, pipes, etc. In



*A. R. Dunham*







*Maria, S. Dunham*



the woods above the site of the old village, the Dunham children found several breast-pins, the silver of which was perfectly bright. An old iron tomahawk, with the hammer end made into a pipe, is still preserved in the Dunham family. Artimus Dunham attended two winter seasons of school in Coral Township. He bought land in company with his father, which is still in his possession. Feb. 14, 1855, he married in Coral Township, Miss Maria G. Benson, born in Cazenovia, N. Y., Sept. 2, 1823, daughter of George and Betsy Benson. Mr. Dunham built on his farm a substantial frame house and good farm buildings, and he and his family lived here for many years. A careful manager and of industrious habits, he prospered and finally owned about 600 acres of fine farming land. Mrs. Dunham was a member of the Congregational church at Union, and Mr. Dunham donated the land on which the church was built, and assisted in building the church edifice. After this church was reduced in membership, Mrs. Dunham united with the Presbyterian church at Marengo, and Mr. Dunham has since liberally assisted in its support and contributed to the erection of the new church. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Dunham were: Chauncey A., born August 9, 1858, and Nellie, who died at three years of age.

Chauncey A. Dunham, son of Artemus and Maria G. (Benson) Dunham, was born at Coral, Ill., and received a good education. Having completed an elementary course at the district school, he attended the high school at Marengo, Todd Seminary at Woodstock, and Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill. He was reared a farmer and married in Coral, Ill., Sept. 3, 1879, Ella Cowles, born July 19, 1861, daughter of Dexter and Ellen (Flannagan) Cowles.

Dexter Cowles was born in Cortland County, N. Y., son of William Cowles. He married in Ithaca, N. Y., Ellen P. Flannagan, who was born in Ireland, the daughter of a wealthy linen-draper of London, England. When a child she was kidnapped by her nurse and brought to Ithaca, N. Y., and abandoned, but was kindly cared for and raised by a lady of that city. Mr. Cowles settled in Hampshire, De Kalb County, Ill., sometime before the Civil War. He enlisted for three years' service in Company E., Ninety-fifth Illinois Volun-

teer Infantry, participated in many battles and was honorably discharged on expiration of his term of enlistment. He died in De Kalb County, Ill., in 1874, his wife having died several years previously. Their daughter Ella was adopted by Lieutenant Gilkerson.

Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey A. Dunham are the parents of Nellie Shere, born August 13, 1889, and Neill Chauncey, born Dec. 26, 1884, both of whom have received the advantages of a good education. Mr. and Mrs. Dunham are members of the Methodist church of which Mr. Dunham is Trustee. Mr. Dunham is a Republican in politics and a member of the I. O. O. F., of Union, where he has passed all the chairs. He is now a member of the lodge at Marengo, of which he is the present representative to the Grand Lodge, and of the Sherman Encampment, at Woodstock. In 1891, at Union, Ill., Mr. and Mrs. Dunham joined the Laurel Rebekah Lodge, I. O. O. F., in which Mrs. Dunham has passed all the chairs, and has represented her lodge at the Grand Assembly, Springfield, Ill. She was instituting officer of the lodge at Woodstock, in 1900, and a member of the staff of her home lodge at Union, of which she is Vice-Grand. The degree of chivalry was conferred on Mrs. Dunham at the Grand Lodge at Springfield, November, 1903. She is also Official Examiner for the State of Illinois and President of the school of instruction connected with her lodge, and is one of the most efficient daughters of Rebekah in Illinois.

Mr. Dunham owns 240 acres of fine farming land and a pleasant residence in Marengo. He is a man whose life is exemplary in all respects, and he has the esteem of his friends and the confidence of those who have business relations with him.

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#### JOHN D. DONOVAN.

Mr. John D. Donovan, a representative citizen of McHenry County, who has won his way to substantial success by business sagacity and enterprise, was born in County Cork, Ireland, the son and youngest child of Jeremiah and Johanna (Regan) Donovan. Besides himself there were three children in the family named Annie, Kate and Mary. Losing his father by death when about eight years old,



he attended school in his native town until thirteen years of age, when, in 1866, he came with his mother and sister Annie, to America, arriving at the home of his uncle, Jeremiah Dacy, in Hartland Township, McHenry County, Ill., on December 24th. Here the family made their home for a time, the son attending school the following winter. His mother, who is still living, is a devoted member of the Catholic Church, and has brought up her children with great care—impressing upon them the value of a life of good conduct, self-respecting industry and resolute honesty, has imparted to them the force of character that has marked her own life. After coming to McHenry County young Donovan attended school during the winter, working at farm labor during the summer months. For two winters he was a pupil at the Deep Cut school, taught by John B. Lyon, now an attorney of Harvard, later spending three winters in the Hughes district school. Attentive to his studies, he thus obtained a good common-school education, while learning the value of such training as he was receiving by hard work on the farm. His education was thus of a practical character fitting him for a successful business life based upon his own efforts and individual resources. The spring after his arrival in America he hired out to a farmer at eight dollars per month, which was soon increased to eighteen and finally to twenty dollars. Being industrious and faithful as a laborer, he never suffered for want of employment at good wages. In the fall of 1871, when about nineteen years of age, he came to Woodstock and entered into the employment of his cousin, Timothy J. Dacy, a successful business man, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Here he remained eleven years, and, beginning at the bottom, mastered all branches of the agricultural implement trade in which Mr. Dacy was engaged. Mr. Donovan found in his kinsman and employer a sagacious and kindly adviser, to whose practical training he is largely indebted for his success in life. Acting under the advice of his employer, he was accustomed, when selling implements to farmers, never to promise more than he could perform, and thus established a reputation for veracity and integrity which has been of inestimable value to him personally and has contributed to the success of the business in which he has been engaged. In addi-

tion to his other duties, he kept the books and made collections for the firm for some time, and, having saved a little money, in March, 1881, decided to seek a new field with a view of entering into business on his own account. Going to Minneapolis, Minn., with the object of engaging in the implement business there, he had scarcely been absent more than a week, when he received a telegram from his former employer informing him of the destruction of his establishment by fire, and asking him to return to Woodstock at once. On his arrival he was offered by Mr. Dacy, and accepted, a partnership with the latter, and the firm of Dacy & Company having been organized, the work of clearing up the ruins left by the fire and re-establishing the business was begun. In this Mr. Donovan bore a prominent part. Mr. Dacy's principal books of account had been destroyed by fire, but by means of small pass-books containing the duplicates of filled orders and notes due, which had been preserved in another safe, with much labor on the part of Mr. Donovan, new books of account were opened and the business reestablished. Mr. Donovan assisted in various ways to extend the business of the concern. One of these was by holding large auction sales which did much to advertise the new firm. In 1884 the firm of T. J. Dacy & Company was dissolved and Mr. Donovan has since carried on the agricultural implement business alone at the stand which he now occupies. He has been uniformly successful and has acquired a handsome property. After having been engaged in this line over thirty years, he now conducts the largest implement business in McHenry County, besides being the owner of a pleasant residence and other valuable real estate in Woodstock. In political opinions he is a believer in the doctrines of the Democratic party, and has been twice elected Mayor in a strongly Republican city, besides serving several years as Alderman. He has also been a member of the Board of Education for sixteen years, and, during the administration of Governor Altgeld, served four years on the Board of Trustees of the Northern Illinois Hospital for the Insane at Elgin. Mr. Donovan was married at Woodstock, in 1885, to Miss Annie Donnelly, born in Woodstock, the daughter of John Donnelly. They have two children, Rupert D. and Paul



*Jacob Dellenbach*



*Mrs. Jacob Dellenbach*





J. Fraternally he is a member of the order of Forresters and Knights of Columbus. Mr. Donovan and his family are communicants of the Catholic Church. He takes a broad view of public questions, adopting as his motto, "The greatest good for the greatest number." He is a zealous advocate of municipal ownership of public utilities, believing that any profit to be derived from improvements and works of a public character should go to the benefit of the people, by assisting in the reduction of taxes instead of enriching the bank accounts of private individuals. While Mayor of Woodstock, he was one of the originators and chief promoters of the present admirable system of waterworks, which is claimed to be one of the best for a city of its size in the West. Owing to the stand taken by the Mayor supported by the Board of Aldermen and a number of the public-spirited citizens, the system is now owned and operated by the city for its own benefit. He has also been an influential factor in promoting local manufacturing enterprises, especially the establishment at Woodstock of the Oliver Typewriter Factory, which, as a member of a committee of business men, he was instrumental in securing.

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#### JACOB DELLENBACH.

Jacob Dellenbach, Woodstock, Ill., is a retired farmer and respected citizen who presents an excellent example of Alsatian blood, of whom so many of the best class have found homes in McHenry County. Mr. Dellenbach was born in Birlenbach, Kreiss Weisenberg, Alsace, then a province of France, but now a part of Germany. The family is believed to have been of Swiss origin, but had been settled for generations in Alsace. His parents were Henry and Margaret (Ungerer) Dellenbach, the former born in Drachenbronn, Alsace, April 7, 1817, the son of Peter Dellenbach, who was a farmer owning several small parcels of land in different localities, but living with his family in a village, as was the custom in that country. The wife of Peter Dellenbach was a Koebel. The son, Henry, while still a young man, served in the continental wars under Napoleon Bonaparte, but later married and settled down to farming in his native country. He

was twice married—first to Magdalena Kochensperger, the fruit of this union being one son named Henry. His first wife having died, he married for his second wife Margaret Ungerer, and one son, Jacob, the subject of this sketch, was born to them. The father (Henry Dellenbach) remained in his native country until nearly sixty years of age, when, in 1875, in company with his wife and younger son, Jacob, he came to America, whither the latter had come some years previous, returning, however, to accompany his parents to their new home west of the Atlantic. The elder brother, Henry, was already in this country, having come over some years previously. The elder, Henry Dellenbach, came to McHenry County, Ill., where he bought 160 acres of land in Seneca Township, of which he made a good farm, and there spent the remainder of his life, dying Dec. 10, 1897, at the age of about eighty years. Mr. Dellenbach was an industrious, frugal and thrifty farmer, and he and his wife were both members of the German Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Dellenbach was born in her husband's native town of Birlenbach, Alsace, March 23, 1821, and died in McHenry County, Ill., Dec. 14, 1884.

Jacob Dellenbach received a good education in his native country before coming to America, and was able to speak and write in both the French and German languages. He was brought up a farmer and in 1870, at the age of nineteen years, came to America, sailing from Hamburg, by steamer for New York, the voyage occupying the unusually long period of eighteen days. From New York he went directly to Lyons, Wayne County, N. Y., where he found employment at farm work for the next two years. In 1872 he came to McHenry County, Ill., where he was engaged as a farm hand three years, when, in 1875, he returned to his native country to accompany his parents to America. His brother Henry had come to America in 1873. The latter was born Nov. 9, 1845, and died Oct. 29, 1896, being still a single man.

The farm in Seneca Township, McHenry County, upon which the Dellenbach family settled on their arrival in this country, already had good buildings on it when they bought it, but it was still further improved

after it came into their possession. By industry, enterprise and good judgment, Jacob Dellenbach became a thrifty farmer and prosperous citizen, and served his fellow-citizens as Road Commissioner six years and School Director five years. On June 24, 1880, he was married in Greenwood Township to Eliza Herdklotz, who was a native of that township, born Jan. 24, 1859, the daughter of Peter J. and Katharine (Sondericker) Herdklotz. (See sketch of Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Herdklotz). After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Dellenbach lived on the home farm and, still cultivating it with true German industry, with loyal fidelity and devotion, cared for his parents in their old age. Mr. and Mrs. Dellenbach are members of the German Presbyterian church, and in political affiliation he is a staunch Republican.

Reared among the vineyards of his native Alsace, Mr. Dellenbach has a fondness for the vine, and, as his father did before him, understands its cultivation and the manufacture of its products. In 1891 he bought three acres of land within the corporate limits of the city of Woodstock, where he has erected a handsome and tasteful residence. This tract he contemplates transforming into a group of vineyards or horticultural gardens, for the cultivation of the grape and other small fruits, ornamental shrubbery, etc., after the manner of some of the beautiful homes in his fatherland. It may be stated in this connection that his father, during his life, had on the old home farm one of the most valuable vineyards in Northern Illinois. Mr. Dellenbach's career through life has been that of the straight-forward, honest citizen, marked by sturdy German industry and steadiness of character.

#### VICTORIA A. DALTON.

Archimedes Burr Wynkoop, a pioneer settler and early public official of McHenry County, Ill., was born in Chemung, Chemung County, N. Y., June 5, 1812, the son of Benjamin and Hannah (Wynkoop) Wynkoop, both branches of the family being of Holland-Dutch extraction. The younger Wynkoop was educated in the public schools and at Geneva College, N. Y., and was one of the earliest settlers in McHenry County, and for a time boarded at

the celebrated "Brown's Log Cabin Tavern" in McHenry, the historic hostelry of the county. He became the first Circuit Clerk of McHenry County; during the gold-fever period of 1848, went to California and died at Stockton, in that State, Jan. 30, 1889. Of his official connection with the McHenry County Circuit Court, "Walker's Directory of McHenry County," the oldest publication treating of historical events of this county, says:

"The circuit court of McHenry County held its first regular session at the old village of McHenry, the county-seat, on May 10, 1838, John Pearson, of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, presiding. The first State's Attorney was Alonzo Huntington; Sheriff, Henry B. Steele, and Clerk, A. B. Wynkoop."

Mr. Wynkoop came to Illinois in 1836, in company with "Long John Wentworth," who afterwards became editor of Chicago's first newspaper, "The Chicago Democrat." On the road westward he had met Wentworth, who walked most of the way peddling books, but who entered the State of Illinois riding an old white horse. Mr. Wynkoop afterwards settled near Libertyville, Lake County, where he bought 320 acres of land and opened up a farm. He was a man of enterprise and energy, and later built and owned the old South Pier at Waukegan, and also conducted a store and elevator there. He established at Waukegan—then known as "Little Fort"—"The Little Fort Porcupine and Democratic Banner," the earliest newspaper in this section of the State outside of the city of Chicago. A. B. Wynkoop was its editor, and proprietor and N. W. Fuller its publisher, its initial number being issued March 4, 1845. The "History of Lake County" prepared by Col. Charles A. Partridge, and issued by the Munsell Publishing Company, in connection with an edition of the "Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois," says of "The Porcupine;":

"This paper was all that might be inferred from its name. The cut of a hedge-hog surmounted its pages, and its quills projected in all directions. It did not mince matters in the least, but scored the local Democratic leaders severely, even while professing to be their party organ. Public officials were criticised without stint."

From the following advertisement, in No. 4, Vol. II. of "The Porcupine," under date of April 7, 1846, now before the writer, it appears that the venerable Judge Blodgett, still a resident



of Waukegan, was engaged in the practice of law there at that date. The card is as follows:

"BOARDMAN & BLODGETT, Attorneys at Law and Solicitors in Chancery, Little Fort, Lake County, Ill. Will attend to any professional business which may be entrusted to their charge in the counties of Lake and McHenry."

"WM. A. BOARDMAN,  
"H. W. BLODGETT,

"Office in the Court House."

Another advertisement in the same issue is that of Hon. A. B. Coon, recently deceased, known as the Nestor of the McHenry County Bar. He announced that he would "attend to all business entrusted to his care in the counties of McHenry, Kane, DeKalb and Boone."

The same number contains the advertisement of A. B. Wynkoop, offering for sale his "farm of 170 acres under good fence, lying near Libertyville, Lake County; 160 acres under the plow, a good frame house, one-and-a-half stories high, divided into six good rooms; the kitchen has a brick fire-place in it. There is a first-rate well of water, a young orchard and a nursery of peach and apple-trees of about 3,000 on the farm. The peach trees bore a few peaches last year. The farm embraces 337.52 acres. It is rolling prairie, and title is indisputable. Terms, \$10.00 per acre—cash."

As this was but a part of Mr. Wynkoop's property at that time, it is evident he was in good circumstances.

In the foreign news department appears the following:

"FRANCE—Louis Philippe gave a ball at Paris on the anniversary of Washington's birthday.

"ENGLAND—Sir Robert Peel's Corn Law Scheme was carried in the House of Commons by a majority of 97."

The same paper records events in connection with the Mexican War, which was then in progress. It also contains "a roast" for "Long John Wentworth," then Member of Congress for the Northern District of Illinois, whom it describes as "a most unprincipled intriguer and black-hearted despiser of truth and integrity." The following telegram from "Long John" himself will be of interest:

"House of Representatives.

"March 20, 1846.

"To the citizens of Little Fort: The River and Harbor Bill has passed the House by a

vote of 110 to 91, the Illinois delegation standing four to two and one absent.

"Hastily Yours,  
"JOHN WENTWORTH."

Although fifty-seven years have passed since this number of "The Little Fort Porcupine" was issued, the little folio-sheet is very readable; the print is still black and clear, although the paper is somewhat yellowed by age. It is a sheet of five columns, is well edited and presents evidence of literary merit, containing stories as well as news of the day.

No complete file exists and only a few numbers have been preserved, but these are of much historic interest.

On November 21, 1839, Mr. Wynkoop married Elizabeth Slocum, the ceremony taking place in the log-house of Thomas Slocum, on Slocum's Lake in Lake County. Miss Slocum was born July 15, 1819, at Florida, Berkshire County, Mass., the daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah Leafy (Whitcomb) Slocum. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Slocum were: Mary W., Thomas F., Harriet, Sarah L., Abigail, Elizabeth (Mrs. Wynkoop) and Stillman. Jeremiah Slocum was a farmer who moved to Illinois with his family in 1838 and settled on the borders of the lake which received the family name in honor of his son, Thomas F., who was the earliest pioneer in this section, taking up 300 acres of land there in 1837. Here the elder Mrs. Slocum died Sept. 12, 1838, aged fifty years, and was the first white person to be buried in that locality. Jeremiah Slocum died in McHenry County, Oct. 7, 1842, of Western fever, at the age of sixty-one years.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Wynkoop were the parents of three children: Cornelia Amanda, Victoria A. and Nile W. Nile W. is a resident of Wauconda, Lake County, Ill., married Ellen Smith of the same place, and they have two sons—Frank B., who is a druggist at 1002 West Madison Street, Chicago, and Frederick B., who is connected with the Oliver Type-writer Works, Woodstock.

VICTORIA A. DALTON, of the above named family, and patron of this work, was born at Waukegan, Ill., May 24, 1842; received a high-school education in her native town, and afterwards attended a select school at Chemung, N. Y., and an academy at Wauconda, Ill. At fourteen years of age she began teaching at Lake Zurich, Ill., and later taught at Liberty-



ville and other points in Lake and McHenry Counties, until she was twenty years of age. Nov. 6, 1867, Miss Wynkoop was married at Wauconda, Ill., to Fredrick De Esmund Dalton, a newspaper writer and editor, the son of a British officer who served in the British army in India during the Sepoy rebellion, and who was also a Paymaster of Pensions for Canada. Frederick D. Dalton established a newspaper at Montreal, Canada, called "The Freeman," which he conducted for sometime. Then, coming to the United States during our Civil War, he was connected with various Chicago papers, including "The Tribune." He was a zealous champion of temperance and established a temperance paper in Chicago, "The Citizen's League." He died in Boston in 1886, leaving one daughter, Hortense Ada Dalton, now the wife of Harry Wells.

#### GEORGE E. DODD.

George E. Dodd, early settler of Algonquin Township, is descended from an old colonial family of English extraction, who settled in the State of Connecticut in the early part of the seventeenth century.

The family name was originally spelled "Dod," and Daniel Dod, Sr., was the first member of this family to come to America. He was born in England, and with his wife, Mary Dod, came to this country as early as 1646, settling at Branford, Conn. They were the parents of six children: Mary, Anna, Daniel, Ebenezer, Stephen and Samuel. Daniel Dod, Sr., died in 1665, and his wife May 26, 1657. They left an estate at Branford, Conn., where they were both buried.

Daniel Dod, the son, had a good knowledge of surveying and settled in New York. He was a prominent citizen and, in 1692, was chosen to the Legislature of the province. He married Phoebe Brown, daughter of John Brown, and their children were: Daniel, Stephen, John and Dorcas.

Daniel Dod of the third generation, married Sarah Alling, daughter of Samuel Alling, a prosperous farmer. Their children were: Eunice, Sarah, Thomas, Daniel, Isaac, Joseph, Moses, Amos and Caleb.

Isaac Dod of the fourth generation, was a deacon and leading elder in the Presbyterian Church. For several years, he was a Captain

in the Revolutionary Army, also served as a Justice of the Peace, and lived in the center of the valley of Bloomfield. He married Jemima Williams, daughter of Matthew and Abigail Williams, and their children were: Sarah, Moses, Abigail, Abby, Jairus, Abby (2), Jephtha, Jarvis and Isaac. Six of the nine children each lived to the age of eighty years.

Jarvis Dod, of the fifth generation, was born in Bloomfield, Conn., in 1770, where he married Sally Davis, afterwards moved to Oneida County, N. Y., and lived there until his death, Jan. 30, 1852. His wife died July 6, 1848. Their children were: Joanna, William, Abigail, Isaac, Davis, Sarah, Ambrose, Moses, Mary (who is still living), John and Nathaniel J.

Ambrose Dod, of the sixth generation, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., where his father had cleared up a farm, having settled there when the county was a wilderness. He received a common-school education, learned the tanner's trade, and married at Saratoga, N. Y., Jan. 1835, Cornelia Early, who was a descendant of Lord Early of Scotland. After their marriage they settled on a farm in Greenfield, Saratoga County, where they lived nine years, when, in 1845, they moved to Illinois and settled on the farm now owned by Mr. George E. Dodd. The farm, then consisting of 600 acres, was partly improved and he bought it in partnership with his wife's brother, George W. Early. They afterwards sold most of this land, but Mr. Dodd retained 106 acres, which he improved and cultivated during the remainder of his life. His wife died in October, 1849, and in 1856 he married Eliza M. McOmber. Mr. Dodd was a member of the Congregational Church, in which he was a deacon for a great many years. He was also a member of the New York State militia. The children by his first marriage were: George E., born Nov. 24, 1835, Emily A., born Jan. 21, 1838, married Chester Bigelow; Charles F. who was born May 24, 1840, served as a soldier in the Civil War and died in July, 1864, from the effects of disease contracted while in the service; Henry, born Feb. 23, 1842, died Sept. 20, 1844; Egbert R., born Oct. 27, 1844; Alvin H., born Sept. 8, 1847. The children by his second marriage were Cornelia, born March 23, 1853; Albert H., born Sept. 4, 1860, and Lewis A., born Sept. 24, 1863. Ambrose Dodd died Nov. 2, 1876, aged about seventy-three years.

Mr. George E. Dodd, was born in Albany,

N. Y., Nov. 24, 1835, and was raised on a farm in Saratoga County. He was about ten years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois, and there received a good common-school education, attending the first school in the village of Algonquin. He remembers distinctly the journey by the lakes to Chicago, and then by team to McHenry County. Jan. 17, 1866, in Algonquin Township, he married Roselle H. Ford, born in Genessee County, N. Y., Jan. 17, 1842, daughter of Hiram and Lucy B. (Brown) Ford.

Hiram Ford was descended from an old Scotch-American family, and Mrs. Ford was a descendant of Captain Vaughn of Revolutionary fame. Their children were: Diantha, Julia, Henry, Roselle, Vernon and Elmer. Mr. Ford moved with his family to Illinois and settled in Algonquin Township in 1842, where he bought an improved farm and made a good home. He was a member of the Methodist Church and died May 24, 1849.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. George E. Dodd lived on a rented farm in Algonquin Township for six years. He then bought a farm near Cary Station, and, in 1882, moved to their present farm, the old Dodd homestead, which has been in the Dodd family for over fifty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Dodd were the parents of the following children: Charles V., George Alvin, Bertha E., Elmer N. and Eudora D. He was a soldier in the Civil War, enlisting in Algonquin, in December, 1861, as a private in Company A, Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, to serve three years. He took part in the battles at Fort Donelson and at Corinth, and was honorably discharged Oct. 31, 1862, at Corinth, Miss., on account of disability caused by sickness. He was taken sick in July, 1862, and cared for in the Hospital at Corinth, during the months of August, September and October, after which he was sent home to regain his health. His brother Charles was in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and took part in several important battles, and in the siege of Vicksburg. In politics Mr. Dodd is a Republican and has held the office of School Director for six years.

Charles V. Dodd, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Dodd, married Jennie McKee and is a machinist in Elgin. He has one child named Marguerite.

George Alvin married Elizabeth Rosenkrans

and lives on the farm. They have one daughter, Gladys.

Bertha married Minor D. Weaver, a merchant of Cary Station, and they have two children, Marion and Roselle.

Elmer N. married Emma Lobeck, and they live in Maywood, a suburb of Chicago. He is a machinist by occupation.

Eudora D. married Edward C. Peter, a merchant in Algonquin.

#### ANDREW DOIG.

Andrew Doig (deceased), during his life one of the leading business men of Algonquin, Ill., was born of Scotch parents in London, England, May 5, 1828, son of Andrew and Isabel (Fife) Doig. Andrew Doig, Sr., was the son of James Doig, a stone-cutter, who was born in Dundee, Scotland, and there married Isabella Fife, who was descended from a prominent Highland Scotch family. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Doig moved to America, landing at Philadelphia, in 1852, where he worked at his trade as a stone-cutter and assisted as a "true carver" in the building of Girard College, the cutting of the caps on the Ionic columns being an important part of his work. He moved to Washington about 1840, where he assisted in building the Patent Office and the United States Post-office, afterwards (1846) came to Illinois and settled in Will County, where he bought a farm of 200 acres. He improved this property, and, in 1866, moved to Chicago, where he invested his means in buildings and real estate, but, in his old age, returned to Will County and lived with his son, Alexander Doig, until his death at the age of eighty-seven years. Mr. and Mrs. Doig had, for a great many years, been members of the Presbyterian church. In politics Mr. Doig was a Democrat.

Andrew Doig (2), the subject of this sketch, was between four and five years of age when his parents came to America, and about eleven years old when they moved to Washington. He received most of his education in the public schools in Washington, and also learned the carpenter's trade. In the spring of 1850 he went to California, starting from Will County, Ill., with horses and wagon and crossing the plains. On the way the party remained at Council Bluffs for a few days, and were ninety days in completing the journey to Weaversville, Cal. Here Mr. Doig worked at placer-



mining for three years, when he returned to Illinois by way of the Isthmus of Panama to New York and Philadelphia, stopping at the latter city to have his gold coined. Returning to Will County, he purchased 300 acres of unimproved land, which he converted into a fine farm and on which he lived for nine or ten years. In 1855 Mr. Doig married in Chicago, Catherine H. Gillespie, born in New York State, about 1836, daughter of Alexander and Agnes (Simpson) Gillespie. Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie were of Scotch ancestry, members of the Presbyterian church, and their children were: Jennie, Catherine H., Margaret, John and George. Mr. Gillespie was a cabinet-maker by trade and settled in Will County, Ill., at an early day.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Doig settled in Will County, but ten years later moved to Chicago, where he engaged in the real estate business, building houses on his own account and conducting a successful business for about eleven years. In 1875 he resumed the occupation of farming, having bought 651 acres of improved land in Callaway County, Mo., for \$35,000. In 1882 he returned to Illinois and bought his home property at Algonquin with a grist-mill, where he continued in business the remainder of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Doig were the parents of five children: James, Agnes, Andrew J., Elizabeth A. and Catherine H. James married Nannie B. Carver, daughter of John M. Carver, a native of Kentucky, and they now reside in Chicago. Agnes married Alexander McKay, and lives in Algonquin. Andrew J. married Sophronia Munshaw, and they live in Winchester, Tenn. Elizabeth A. married John R. Munshaw, a farmer of Algonquin Township, and they have three children: Hazelverne, Jennie Louise and Ralph. Catherine married George E. Morton, who engaged in the livery business in Algonquin, and died Nov. 16, 1902. They had one child named George E. Morton.

Politically Mr. Doig was a Democrat and was a member of the Masonic Order and of the I. O. O. F. Mrs. Doig was a member of the Presbyterian church and died in Algonquin, Aug. 22, 1894. Mr. Doig died May 23, 1901.

#### JOHN A. DWELLY.

John A. Dwelly, farmer and prominent citizen of Dorr Township, McHenry County, Ill.,

was born in Manlius, Onondaga County, N. Y., May 1, 1860, the son of John P. and Lucy P. (Safford) Dwelly. The Dwelly family are of Welsh ancestry and were old colonial settlers in Rhode Island, while the Saffords are of English-Puritan stock and at an early day became settlers in Connecticut Colony. John P. Dwelly (1), was the son of Jonathan P. and Lucy (Williams) Dwelly, and was born in Rhode Island, whence he emigrated with his father's family to Onondaga County, N. Y. There the father settled in the town of Manlius, where he cleared up a farm in a heavily timbered region. The old homestead in Onondaga County still remains in possession of his descendants.

Jonathan P. Dwelly and wife were the parents of eight children, as follows: Horace, Luther, James, Addison, John P., Mary, Sallie and Esther. The father was a substantial and reputable citizen, and lived to be seventy-eight years of age.

John P. Dwelly (2) was born on the homestead in Onondaga County, N. Y., and there received a common-school education. At twenty-five years of age he was united in marriage to Lucy P. Safford, who was a native of the same county, the daughter of Anson K. and Lucy (Hatch) Safford. Both the paternal and maternal branches of her family were descended from early colonial and English Puritan stock. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. John P. Dwelly settled on his father's farm, and became the owner of a farm of eighty acres. This he finally sold and, purchasing another farm—the old Safford homestead—of eighty acres two miles distant from his first location, remained there for the rest of his life. He was a Methodist in religious belief and in politics a Democrat. He had children named: Eva L., John A., William T., Cora B., Edmond (who died at the age of two years), and Minnie E.

John A. Dwelly, of McHenry County, and the immediate subject of this sketch, received a good education in the public schools of his native town and in the Manlius High School, and early began working on the farm, which became his life-occupation. In 1881 he came to McHenry County, Ill., arriving there on March 23d of that year. Here he remained two years engaged in farm-work, when he went to Clark County, S. D., where he "homesteaded" a tract of 160 acres, remaining seven



years. In this time he had greatly improved his land, erecting on it a comfortable dwelling and other farm buildings. January 1, 1885, he married Emma L. Thomas, who was born in McHenry Township, McHenry County, the daughter of Andrew and Elvira (Brown) Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Dwelly spent five years on a farm in Dakota and then, having sold it, returned to McHenry County and, for the next four years, lived on land in McHenry Township. He then, about March 1, 1894, bought the farm which he now occupies, consisting of 120 acres of well-improved land pleasantly situated near Woodstock.

Mr. John A. Dwelly is a Democrat in politics and he and his wife are members of the Methodist church. Fraternally he is a member of Knights of the Globe. While a resident of Dakota he was one of the Trustees of his township.

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Dwelly are the parents of the following named children: Elfileda E. born Nov. 26, 1885, now a pupil in Kimball's Commercial College; Leverne J., born Oct. 18, 1890, died Nov. 26, 1894; Sylvia L., born July 15, 1895, and Claribel C., born May 6, 1897.

#### JOSEPH DRAPER.

Joseph Draper, West McHenry, Ill., farmer and substantial citizen of Nunda Township, McHenry County, was born in Canada, Oct. 1, 1834, the son of Edward and Chautice (LaPerie) Yertser. Both parents were French Canadians, and their names are spelled as understood when pronounced by Mr. Draper to English ears. Mr. Draper received the name by which he is now known from Americans who were unable satisfactorily to pronounce his French patronymic, and this he has since "worn." Both branches of his family lived within a day's journey east of Montreal in what was then known as "Lower Canada" or "Canada East"—now a part of the Province of Quebec. They were, as already indicated, of old French Canadian stock, and farmers by occupation. The other children of Mr. Draper's immediate family were: Edward, Telaise, Trefley and Lazien.

Until seventeen years of age Mr. Draper worked on the farm at his Canadian home, enjoying no opportunities of acquiring an education. He then left home and, with companions going to Vermont, found employment for

a time on a farm at West Derby in that State. Then, having returned to his native country, for a year he lived at Knowltonville, near the Vermont line, where he worked at the blacksmith trade. He also was employed for a time at farm work in the Memphremagog Lake region, and for two years followed his trade as a blacksmith at Hardwick, Vt. Thence he went to Cleveland, Ohio, and spent two years working at his trade in that city. In the fall of 1856 he removed to McHenry County, Ill., with the family of Ogden Meeker, who was a blacksmith by trade and for whom he worked the following winter. Then, having received some assistance from Leonard Gage, he bought out his employer and carried on the blacksmithing business until the spring of 1860, when, in company with Mr. Gage and his son James, he went to Pike's Peak, making the journey across the plains with a four-horse team. The party crossed the Missouri River at Omaha, and the journey across the plains occupied two months. Arrived in Pike's Peak region, Mr. Draper went into the Rocky Mountains, twenty-five miles from Boulder City, where he prosecuted his trade as a blacksmith until the winter of 1861-62. He then returned to the States riding a pony across the plains, the trip this time requiring eighteen days, when he arrived at Burlington, Iowa. He finally returned to his old home in McHenry County, but in the following December (1862), still feeling an attraction for the gold-mining region, he started for California by way of the Isthmus of Panama, taking steamer from New York. At the Isthmus he was delayed twenty-six days in consequence of an accident to the steamer by which he expected to proceed to San Francisco; but finally having reached his destination, he went on to the Old Mission at San Jose. Here he engaged in the blacksmithing business again, until May 15, 1863, when he went north to the Columbia River, finally reaching Umatilla, in Northeastern Oregon. From this point he accompanied a pack-train into Idaho, and spent six weeks prospecting for gold in the vicinity of Placerville.

In the fall of 1865 Mr. Draper returned to Illinois, making the journey from Placerville, Idaho, to Oskaloosa, Iowa—2200 miles—on the back of a mule in the space of two and one-half months. After his return to McHenry County, he resumed his business as a blacksmith, and, on Jan. 1, 1866, was married to Miss Hannah

Parks. (See sketch of H. C. Allen in this volume). Mr. and Mrs. Draper had children named: Georgiana, born July 22, 1867, and Edna, born Aug. 23, 1871, died Jan. 18, 1872. Mrs. Draper died Nov. 8, 1871, and on Feb. 16, 1873, Mr. Draper was married to Eliza Jane Thomas, who was born on the old Thomas homestead in McHenry Township, May 16, 1844. Mrs. Draper is the daughter of Andrew and Elvira A. (Brown) Thomas (see sketch of Andrew Thomas), and was reared among the pioneer settlers of that region, in her childhood attending school in the Overocker School House, a frame building still standing but now in use as a farm house. One of her early teachers was Lydia Sayles, now the mother of Charles P. Barnes, the well-known lawyer of Woodstock, while another was Celeste Bresse, now Mrs. Ralston. Mrs. Draper also attended school in East Greenwood where, under the instruction of her mother, she learned to spin and weave—one of the domestic accomplishments of young ladies of that time. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Draper settled in West McHenry, where Mr. Draper carried on his business as a blacksmith until February, 1879, when they moved to their present home. Mr. Draper bought 107 acres of partially improved land with no buildings on it except a house. He has since added many improvements, including good farm buildings, and has a well-improved farm and pleasant home. In accomplishing this result he has had the efficient aid of his industrious and capable wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Draper have one son, Clarence Ray, who was born in West McHenry, Aug. 16, 1877. He received a good education after spending the usual time in the public school, having also attended the McHenry High School. He is a practical farmer and now resides with his parents on the home farm.

Joseph Draper is of a cheerful, happy temperament, which has been enriched rather than hardened by the strenuous and adventurous life he has led in many different sections of the country, bringing him in contact with many varieties of people. He is now spending the evening of his days amid the comforts of a home well deserved as a reward for many years of hardship and sturdy industry, coupled with a life of unswerving integrity.

#### HAMLIN T. DOLBEER.

Hamlin T. Dolbeer, McHenry County, Ill., early settler of Nunda Township, was born in Monroe County, N. Y., Nov. 9, 1834, the son of Eli and Laura (Lee) Dolbeer. His paternal grandfather, John Dolbeer, was a native of New Jersey, but of Dutch ancestry. He went in early manhood to Alvord, Berkshire County, Mass., where he married a Miss Parks, and they had children named Eli, Amaziah, Achsah and a daughter who died in childhood. John Dolbeer was a farmer and, in 1812, moved to Monroe County, N. Y., locating fifteen miles southeast of Rochester, where he bought unimproved land and cleared up a farm in the wilderness, becoming the owner of 120 acres. He was a lame man, and finally died here at the age of about seventy-six years. He was a member of the Baptist church.

Eli Dolbeer, son of the preceding, born June 3, 1806, at Alvord, Mass., went with his parents to Monroe County, N. Y., at the age of six years, and there received an ordinary common-school education. His life occupation was that of a farmer. He married at Mendon, N. Y., Laura Lee, who was born on the Lamoille River in Vermont, 1804, the daughter of Stephen Lee and wife. The maiden name of the latter was Sullivan, but her first name is unknown. The Lees were of Puritan New England stock and the Sullivans were of Irish descent. Mrs. Stephen Lee was a grand-niece of Gen. John Sullivan of Revolutionary fame, and her husband, Stephen Lee, was a soldier of the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Plattsburg.

Eli Dolbeer settled on his father's old homestead at Mendon, N. Y., and later bought more land until he was the owner of 230 acres, upon which he erected good buildings, and here spent the last years of his life. His children were: Mary Ann; Charlotte; Amaziah, born March 26, 1826; John S., born Oct. 2, 1830; Hamlin T., born Nov. 9, 1834, and Henry C., born Sept. 17, 1838. Mr. Dolbeer was an industrious and enterprising citizen and enjoyed the general respect of the community. His wife was a member of the Baptist church for sixty-five years.

Hamlin T. Dolbeer received a common-school education and his life-occupation has been that of a farmer. In 1857 at the age of twenty-three years he came to McHenry County, Ill., and, for a time, was employed by the month at farm



work in Nunda Township. Then returning to his old home in New York, he remained there until March 9, 1859, when he again came to Nunda Township, and soon after entered into the employment of Anthony Snyder. On March 7, 1860, he married Catherine M. Snyder, who was born July 12, 1837, the daughter of Anthony and Christina (Miller) Snyder. Her father was born at Taghkanick, Columbia County, N. Y., the son of Anthony and Margaret Snyder. The Snyders were descendants of a Holland-Dutch family of New Amsterdam—the original Dutch name for the city of New York. Anthony Snyder (2) married in Columbia County, N. Y., Oct. 25, 1834, Catherine Miller, who was born in the same town as her husband, Nov. 13, 1815. About 1837, Mr. Snyder moved to Wayne County, N. Y., where he lived about eight years when, in October 1845, he came to McHenry County, Ill., settling in Nunda Township. A year later (1846) he bought the land on which he now lives, consisting of 420 acres. The improvements upon this land, at that time, consisted only of ten acres of broken prairie and a log house. Mr. Snyder added other improvements, erecting commodious and substantial farm buildings, and in time became a prosperous and successful farmer. He was held in high esteem in the community and served his township as Road Commissioner and School Director. For twenty-two years he was engaged in the management of a threshing machine during the season for small grain in that vicinity. He and his wife were members of the Universalist church, and in politics he was a Jacksonian Democrat. He died Feb. 6, 1890, aged about seventy-six years, and his wife, Feb. 4, 1897.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hamlin Dolbeer settled on the old homestead, and he has followed the threshing business for the past twenty-seven years, and is now one of the most widely known men in McHenry County. He had been in the threshing business nine years before he came from New York, and understood it thoroughly. To Mr. and Mrs. Dolbeer have been born the following named children: Laura C., born March 1861, died aged twelve years; Lydia Ann, born Sept. 17, 1863; Ida May, born Oct. 15, 1868; Mary Elizabeth, born Nov. 5, 1874.

Lydia Ann married Thomas Wright, an Englishman by birth and a farmer who lives

in Grant Township, Lake County, Ill., and they have three children.

Ida May married Thomas Fisher, a farmer of Wauconda, Lake County, who is of English descent.

Mary Elizabeth married Joseph Vasey, also an Englishman and a farmer of Wauconda, Lake County.

Mr. Dolbeer is the owner of a farm of 160 acres, and by industry, enterprise and good management, has become a thrifty and prosperous farmer.

#### MERTON J. EMERSON.

Merton J. Emerson, editor of the "Harvard Independent," was born at Prairie du Chien, Wis., Oct. 20, 1870, son of Herbert H. and Elizabeth (Vroman) Emerson. The Emersons are of Massachusetts Puritan ancestry, and of the same stock as Ralph Waldo Emerson, who was a relative of Minot E. Emerson, the grandfather of Merton J.

Minot E. Emerson was a pioneer of New York, residing near Plattsburg, and was a boy at the time of the battle at that place, in the War of 1812. He married in New York State, a Miss Wright and moved to Madison, Wis., in the early settlement of that country, and cleared up a farm. He became a substantial farmer and was one of the first to engage extensively in raising fruit in his country. He served in the Black Hawk War, and though past the age for military service, he and three sons, Roscoe, Alton and Herbert H., enlisted in Company I, Twenty-third Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served in the War of the Rebellion. He was a man of remarkable physical power, and at the time of his death, in 1894, he had reached the venerable age of eighty-two years. Politically he was a Jacksonian Democrat, and as a representative of that party, filled several local offices, among them being that of Supervisor and Justice of the Peace. His children were: James, Ely, Roscoe, Alton, Herbert H. and Merton.

Herbert H. Emerson, father of Merton J., was born at Buckeye, near Madison, Dane County, Wis. After leaving the common school he attended the old Madison University, but left college early to enlist in the Civil War. He participated in the battles of Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, The Wilderness, and several others. He served three years and his



health was ruined by exposure and hardship. In 1866 he married at Clinton, Wis., Elizabeth Vroman, born at Sharon, Wis., July 4, 1844, daughter of Peter N. and Catherine (Ferow) Vroman. Both the Vromans and Ferows were of sturdy colonial Dutch stock.

Peter N. Vroman was born at Sharon, Schoharie County, N. Y., May 6, 1824, son of Josiah and Elizabeth Vroman. He was reared a farmer. September 26, 1844, at Sharon, he married Catherine H. Ferow, daughter of Henry and Leah Ferow. Henry Ferow descended from the old Mohawk Dutch. His father was killed by the Indians in the Mohawk Valley massacre. In 1840 Peter N. Vroman was one of a party that came by steamboat from Buffalo to Detroit, and thence traveled on foot to Chicago and then to Delavan, Wis., where he opened up a farm near Delavan Lake. He died December 29, 1897. His children were Elizabeth, Mary, Henry, Adelia, Charles, Leah and one who died in infancy.

After marriage Herbert H. Emerson became a very successful music teacher and conducted an orchestra at Dubuque, Iowa. His health failing, he returned to Madison, Wis., in 1874, where he died on April 24 of that year. He was a prisoner at Andersonville four months during his term of service in the Civil War, and endured severe hardship. When he entered the prison he weighed one hundred and seventy-five pounds, and when released his weight was eighty pounds. His children are: Herbert E., Cora E. and Merton J.

After the death of his father, Merton J. Emerson remained with his mother and family at Walworth, Wis. In 1884 the family moved to Harvard, and there Merton J. attended the public schools, including the high school, and subsequently spent two years in Beloit College. At the age of fifteen years, and while yet in school, he began to learn the printer's trade in the office of the "Harvard Independent," under O. S. Eastman, spending four years and learning the business thoroughly. While attending Beloit College he paid his expenses by doing editorial work on the "Beloit News," also serving at times, as compositor and reporter on the same paper. After leaving college he took charge of the "Delavan Enterprise" as editor, which he conducted for a year and a half. From 1892 to 1895 he filled a place in the Government printing office at Washington, D. C., where he had unusual advantages and op-

portunities for learning the mysteries of the art. Returning to Harvard, on Sept. 1, 1895, in partnership with Eugene Sanders, he bought the "Harvard Independent," which has always been conducted as a Republican newspaper. It was established in 1865, and was for some years the leading newspaper of McHenry County. At the time it was purchased by its present proprietors, its business had run down, and it had a very small patronage. It now ranks as one of the leading newspapers of the county. Mr. Emerson's mother died in Harvard, April 13, 1899.

In Chicago, Oct. 30, 1901, Mr. Emerson married Tina B. Spriggs, of Harvard. She was born in Chicago, the daughter of T. G. and Kate L. Livingstone) Spriggs. The Spriggs family is of English extraction, while the Livingstones are of the same stock as the noted African explorer, David Livingstone. A niece of Kate L. married the celebrated humorist, Bill Nye.

Politically, Mr. Emerson is a Republican, and fraternally a member of the Masonic Order and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is one of the best known, as well as one of the ablest of the editors of the McHenry County press. Graphic in style, and clear and forceful in his diction, his pen is wielded with the rugged force of an independent American, and his editorials never deviate from the high standard of his ideals.

#### WILLIAM EDWARDS.

William Edwards (deceased), an early settler of Marengo, McHenry County, is a descendant of the celebrated Edwards family of New England, of which the Rev. Jonathan Edwards was a member, and among whose 1,400 descendants, during the last century and a half, sixty have obtained prominence in authorship and journalism, producing one hundred and thirty-five works of more or less literary merit. Among two hundred and eighty-five college graduates of this family, thirteen have been Presidents of colleges and other higher institutions of learning; sixty-five have been college professors, and many principals of important academies and seminaries. Forty-five American and foreign universities count members of this family on the list of their alumni, and from its ranks have come Presidents of Yale, Princeton, Union, Hamilton and Amherst Colleges;

the Universities of California and Tennessee; the famous Litchfield Law School and Andover Theological Seminary. Rev. Timothy Edwards, the founder of the family in America, was an Episcopal clergyman, who came from Wales at an early day and settled near New Haven, Conn., and from him were descended Jonathan Edwards, the eminent Presbyterian theologian, and Capt. Nathaniel Edwards, the Revolutionary patriot. It was to the latter that the subject of this sketch traced his ancestry. Capt. Nathaniel Edwards was born in Connecticut and, while still a young man, served in the French and Indian wars and later in the War of the Revolution, in which he was Captain of an independent company. Some years after the Revolution he removed to what was then a wilderness region in Saratoga County, N. Y., and, settling in the woods about eight miles north of Saratoga Springs, opened up a farm where he died in 1824, aged about eighty-seven years. He was buried in the family cemetery between his farm and that of his son Isaac. The latter, who was the grandfather of the late William Edwards, of McHenry County, was born near New Haven, Conn., served in the latter part of the War of the Revolution, and took part in the battles of Bemis Heights and Stillwater. He married in Connecticut Esther Foote, who was of the same stock as Admiral Foote of the Civil War and Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher. The children of Isaac and Esther (Foote) Edwards were: Betsy and John, born in Connecticut, and Truman, James, Alfred, Edward and Barney, who were born in Saratoga County, N. Y. Isaac Edwards moved from Connecticut to Saratoga County, N. Y., after the birth of his son John, and opened up a farm of 100 acres which became a comfortable homestead. Here he passed the remainder of his days, dying on his farm at the age of eighty-four years, and was buried in the family cemetery already mentioned. He was a member of the Episcopal Church and a man of high character.

John Edwards, the son of Isaac, was born in New Haven, Conn., October 11, 1790, received a common-school education and became a farmer by occupation. While still a child he accompanied his father to Saratoga County, N. Y., and on July 15, 1813, was married in Greenfield, Saratoga County, to Sarah Cooper, who

was born at Stillwater, N. Y., the daughter of William Cooper, a pioneer of Washington County, N. Y. The Coopers were of Scotch-Irish descent. William Cooper was born in New York, the son of James Cooper, a tea-merchant who crossed the Atlantic thirteen times, which in those days was considered remarkable. After marriage John Edwards cleared up a farm in the woods of Saratoga County, bought more land and finally became the owner of between four and five hundred acres. He was a Presbyterian in religious belief, and died at the age of seventy-four years. His children were: William, Isaac, Oliver, David and two daughters who died while young. Mrs. John Edwards was a woman of strong character, and died at the home of her son William, aged ninety-two years.

William Edwards, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in a log cabin on his father's farm, June 9, 1817, received an ordinary education in the pioneer schools of his day, and for a time attended an academy at Greenfield Center, N. Y. March 20, 1844, he was married at Greenfield, N. Y., to Mary R. Bowen, who was born in Greenfield, April 29, 1824, the daughter of Hezekiah and Phoebe (Allen) Bowen. Her father was a native of Rhode Island, born April 14, 1796, the son of Asa Bowen, the family being of English descent. Hezekiah was a farmer of Saratoga County, N. Y., and had the following named children: Daniel, Mary R., and John A., all now deceased. The father died in New York State, October 22, 1840, and his wife in the same State at the age of eighty years. After marriage, William Edwards settled on a farm eight miles north of Saratoga, where his wife died Dec. 11, 1849, leaving one child, Hannah Mary, who married Alfred Cady, of Marengo, and has two children, Ruby Mary and Edwin James. On July 30, 1851, he married as his second wife, Jane A. Williams, born in Greenfield, N. Y., March 4, 1820, the daughter of Jonathan and Betsy (Hawley) Williams. In the spring of 1852 Mr. Edwards came to McHenry County, Ill., where he arrived in the early part of May, and soon after engaged in the mercantile business at Marengo, which he continued about six years, when he bought a farm of 245 acres, two and a half miles west of Marengo. This farm he improved, erecting upon it good farm buildings.



Of his second marriage, there was but one child, Jennie L., who lived to years of maturity. She was born at Marengo, Dec. 23, 1861, and is now the wife of Charles N. Spitzer, of Marengo Township, and they have two children, William Edwards and Fred Newton. Mr. Edwards led a prosperous farmer's life for nearly twenty-five years, until 1881, when he returned to Marengo, where he bought a residence and where he spent the remainder of his life, dying there Jan. 12, 1903.

Mr. Edwards was an active and enterprising business man and, withal, public-spirited, as shown by his interest in public questions, including the support of churches, the encouragement of good schools and the promotion of road improvements. For one year he served as Supervisor of Marengo Township. He was one of the founders of the Marengo Collegiate Institute which was established in the 'fifties. He served as treasurer of the Institute for some time, and rendered to it liberal financial assistance. The buildings of the institution having been finally destroyed by fire, it ceased to exist. He was a man of strong temperance principles and was one of the class of citizens who succeeded in excluding liquor-saloons from Marengo for a period of more than thirty years. Originally an old line Whig, Mr. Edwards became one of the founders of the Republican party in McHenry, casting his first Republican vote for John C. Fremont and his second for Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency, in the early days of the party. In 1872 he was a supporter of Horace Greeley for President and, in his later years, co-operated with the Democratic party. He was a student of good literature and retained his mental faculties in a remarkable degree up to the end of his long career of nearly eighty-six years. As a citizen, through his integrity and sterling worth, he enjoyed the respect of the community in which he had spent over half a century.

#### RUSSEL FULLER.

Russel Fuller, retired farmer, Richmond, McHenry County, belongs to one of the pioneer families of Hebron Township, and is a member of a lateral branch of the colonial family of that name in Massachusetts, whose founder came to Plymouth, Mass., on the Mayflower, in 1620.

Judah Fuller, the grandfather of Russel Fuller, was a citizen of Massachusetts, who had children as follows: Simeon, Joseph, Judah, Wealthy, Abiel and Lot. Abiel Fuller, of this family, was born in Massachusetts, Jan. 12, 1777, and became a farmer. In his early manhood he went to Oneida County, N. Y., where he lived for a time with his oldest brother, Simeon. He was married in New York State to Desire Stephens, who belonged to a colonial family of Massachusetts, being born Dec. 21, 1781. Abiel Fuller settled in Madison County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm in the forest and established a home where he lived many years. He became a contractor on the Erie Canal and lost his farm by business reverses, but afterwards purchased unimproved land on which he opened up a new farm. About 1833 he moved to the vicinity of Kalamazoo, Mich., where he lived on a rented farm on Prairie Round, for five years, when he bought land in St. Joseph County, Mich., and improved a farm of 160 acres. Three years later he removed to Walworth County, Wis., where, in conjunction with his son Joseph, he purchased 200 acres of prairie and timber land, which they improved as a farm. Here he died July 2, 1857, aged over eighty years. In religious belief he was a Baptist and, politically, an anti-slavery Whig. The children of Abiel Fuller and wife were: Lyman, born Sept. 27, 1800; Jonathan, born Aug. 11, 1802; Lot Webster, born Nov. 27, 1804; Rachael, born Aug. 12, 1807; Albert, born Feb. 3, 1810; Almon, born Sept. 24, 1811; Joseph, born July 13, 1814; Judah H., born Dec. 8, 1816; Russel (the subject of this sketch), born Dec. 16, 1819, and Abiel, Jr., born July 30, 1822. All of these children were born in Madison County, N. Y., except Lyman, the oldest, who was born in Oneida County.

Russel Fuller received a limited education while working on the farm in his native State and in Michigan, and at twenty-two years of age removed with his parents to Wisconsin, where he worked on a farm in Mound Prairie one year. When twenty-four years of age, he attended school for a time at Ringwood, McHenry County, Ill. He early bought land in Hebron Prairie, and, in 1843, entered forty acres more. At twenty-six years of age he was married in McHenry County to Meleena McCollum, who was born June 15, 1827, the





Russel Fuller





*Mary H. Fuller*





daughter of George and Sarah (Dougherty) McCollum. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fuller settled on his land in Hebron Township, where he improved a farm and built a frame house which is still standing. He added to his land in McHenry County until he had 160 acres, besides 200 acres in Walworth County, Wis. The children by this marriage were: Stanley Webster, born Sept. 30, 1848; Florence A., born June 16, 1850; Esther Maria, born May 20, 1852, and Marion, born August 4, 1855, and died in infancy. Mrs. Fuller died Sept. 14, 1856, and on June 29, 1857, Mr. Fuller was married in Walworth County, Wis., to Mary S. Weeks, of Richmond, Ill., who was born at Guilford, Belknap County, N. H., April 30, 1840, the daughter of Daniel and Ann P. (Elkins) Weeks. Her father, Daniel Weeks, was born in Boston, Mass., August 13, 1813, the son of Daniel and Hannah Gale Weeks. Daniel Weeks, the grandfather of Mrs. Fuller, was born Dec. 28, 1775, and was a merchant and lumber dealer in Boston, but moved to Guilford, N. H., at an early day, where he became a farmer. His children were: John, Isabella William, Julia Susan, Emily and Daniel. Daniel Weeks, Sr., died Dec. 27, 1853, and his wife, July 9, 1852. The father of Daniel Weeks, Sr. was Benjamin Weeks, who was born in 1746, and married May 26, 1774, Sarah Weed. He died in 1828.

Daniel Weeks, the father of Mrs. Fuller, married August 20, 1835, Anna Elkins, who was born in New Hampshire, May 5, 1815, the daughter of John and Sarah (Sibley) Elkins. In 1856 he came to Richmond Township, McHenry County, where he bought and improved 240 acres of land. About 1880 he removed to Beadle County, S. D., where he engaged in stock raising, but, about 1883 to 1885, he returned to Richmond, McHenry County, where he lived until his death. He was an industrious and well-to-do citizen, and in politics a Republican. He and his wife were the parents of the following named children: Anna M., born June 1, 1837, died 1854; Sarah B., born July 11, 1838, died July 19, 1870; Mary S., born April 30, 1840; John B., born Feb. 5, 1842; William S., born Oct. 20, 1844; Oscar, born Nov. 11, 1848, died 1868. The sons John and William were soldiers of the Civil War—the former being Captain of his company, and taking part in the siege of Vicksburg.

After his second marriage Mr. Fuller continued to reside on his farm in Hebron Township until 1872, when he bought residence property in Richmond and resided there for the next five years. In 1877 he returned to his farm, remaining there until 1883, when he sold out his farm property and retired from active business life. Mr. Fuller has two children by his second marriage: Arthur Abiel and Anna M.,—a third child, Oscar, died in infancy. He has provided handsomely for his children, giving his oldest son a farm of 160 acres, and furnishing the others with cash capital with which to begin life for themselves. Mr. Fuller is a life-long Methodist, having united with that church at Prairie Round, Mich., when about sixteen years of age, and has held the offices of Church Trustee and Steward many years. He has also assisted to build several churches in his section of the State. Politically he was originally an old line Whig and later a Republican. By a life of integrity, industry and public spirit he has not only prospered himself, but has won the confidence and respect of the community. Mrs. Fuller is also a member of the Methodist church, with which she united at nineteen years of age, and has been a Sunday School teacher for many years. Two uncles of Mr. Fuller—Simeon and Lot Fuller—served as soldiers in the War of the Revolution.

The following facts concerning Mr. Fuller's children are of interest:

Stanley Webster Fuller, the oldest son, is a farmer in Barton County, Mo., where he owns a farm of 160 acres, besides a farm of the same size in Wright County of the same State. He married in Missouri Alice Cole, and they have three children named Nellie (wife of C. L. Nears, and residing in Barton County, Mo.), Ethel and Frank.

Esther Maria, the only surviving daughter of Mr. Fuller's first marriage, is the wife of Rudolph Primmer, and lives at Palmdale, Cal., where they are engaged in raising fruits and nuts. They have five children, viz.: Alice M. (wife of Rudolph Hermann, and resides near Los Angeles), Fleeta M., (wife of Clifton W. Gillette, resides at Maywood, Ill.), Russell, Lura and Clyde.

Arthur Abiel, a son by Mr. Fuller's second marriage, married Lucy Hart and lives in Maywood, Ill. They have six children, viz.: Clar-

ence, Russell, Lois, Richard H., Arthur and Marion.

Anna M. is the wife of Clyde Barrett and lives at Maywood, Ill. They are the parents of Sylvia May and Lyman Austin, the last of whom died when five years of age.

The following facts relate to the family of Mrs. Fuller: John Elkins, the grandfather of Mrs. Fuller on the maternal side, was born in 1790 and died in 1841. Her grandmother, Sarah (Sibley) Elkins, was born in 1792, and died in 1871. Mrs. Fuller's great-grandfather Elkins was born Dec. 29, 1760, and died in 1850; his wife Hannah (Haynes) Elkins, born in 1760, died in 1838. Her great-grandfather on the maternal side of her mother's family, was William Sibley, who was born July 16, 1768, died June 22, 1828, and his father, William Sibley, born in 1738, died in 1799.

#### GUY S. FRARY.

One of the prominent pioneers and substantial business men of McHenry County, is Guy S. Frary. His family is of English origin, and Puritan stock from Connecticut. Alonzo Frary, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Rutland County, Vt., July 5, 1800, and having received a common-school education, became a farmer. He was married in Fairfield County, Conn., to Maria Sherman, a native of that County, born in 1798, a member of the old Sherman family of Connecticut, and also of English and Puritan descent. After marriage (about 1823-24) they settled in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where Mr. Frary opened a farm in the woods. In 1843 he removed over-land by teams to Illinois, coming by way of Cleveland and Chicago, thence to Algonquin, McHenry County, where he arrived March 8, 1843—the trip occupying thirty days, including a stoppage of three or four days at Door Prairie, Ind. This was the famous hard winter of 1843. Mr. Frary had a two-horse sleigh, which enabled him to make rapid progress on part of his journey. The snow covered the ground in places to the depth of four feet, and hogs running wild in the woods were frozen to death. As late as April 13, Mr. Frary drove from Elgin to Batavia on the ice in Fox River. At first he stopped with S. J. Smith, who lived a mile west of where

Cary Station now stands, and later with William D. Cary, who lived opposite to Mr. Frary's present home. Having located a claim, he ultimately perfected his title by purchase from the Government of 160 acres of prairie land one mile west of Cary Station, and erected upon it a log house which he moved from Algonquin, and in which he lived a number of years. To his original purchase he added 29 ½ acres, making a farm which still remains in possession of his family. He assisted to build the first school house in District No. 9. This was a frame house erected by subscription, the subscribers embracing, among others, the names of Alonzo Frary, Levi Seebert, S. J. Smith, Reuben Jenne, Levi Smith, and Benjamin Hill. Guy S. Frary, then a lad, assisted in hauling the lumber from Chicago. The elder Frary was one of the Directors of the school and a Miss Tiffany the first teacher, the next being William Harback. Before this, Guy had attended school in District No. 5—the first school in that district—taught at the residence of Jesse Miller by a Mr. Cole from Indiana. Some of his fellow-pupils were Ziba and Smith Miller, Jane Elizabeth Denny, Huldah and Martha Seymour and William Wells. Mr. Frary, Sr., died on his farm, Nov. 5, 1861, aged over sixty years. His children were Guy S., Dan R. and a child who died in infancy. His substantial character secured for him in an eminent degree the respect of his fellow-citizens.

Guy S. Frary, the oldest of the family, was born March 12, 1829, in Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and coming with his parents to Illinois in 1843, received a common-school education. His brother, Dan R., after attending the Parish select school at Woodstock, taught for several terms, dying unmarried at the age of twenty-nine years. Guy S. early engaged in farming, and on May 25, 1854, was married at the old "Riverside House" in McHenry, to Elizabeth Crabtree. She was born in Allegany County, N. Y., April 15, 1833, the daughter of Newman and Sally (Hicks) Crabtree. Her father was a son of Benjamin and Polly (Newman) Crabtree, a farmer of New England stock, and according to tradition, descended from one of three brothers who settled in Massachusetts at an early day. In addition to managing a farm, of which he was proprietor, and which he had cleared up in the woods of Allegany





Wm. Hamilton  
aged sixty years.



Mrs. Hamilton  
aged fifty five years  
and daughter Lewis



County, Mr. Crabtree was also a carpenter and joiner and owned a saw-mill. He had a family of eleven children named Newman, Lucy, Betsy, Elias, Daniel, John, Henry, Levi, Susan, Benjamin, and Polly. Benjamin came to Illinois in 1838, by way of the lakes to Chicago, and settled in Algonquin Township, where he located a claim on Section 12, finally entering 250 acres of timber and prairie land, upon which he built a hewed log-house. He was a member of the Baptist Church. Newman, the oldest brother of this family and father of Mrs. Frary, was a farmer, born Nov. 28, 1795, received a common-school education, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812, but was disabled during its progress. He was married Nov. 28, 1819, to Sally Hicks, daughter of Comfort Hicks, and born Nov. 12, 1802. After his marriage Newman settled on a farm adjoining that of his father. About 1839-40 he removed by way of the lakes from Buffalo to Chicago, and thence to Algonquin Township, McHenry County, by a two-horse team he had brought with him by steamer. Here he settled on Section 6, two miles northeast of Cary Station, and opened a farm of 200 acres chiefly of timber land, dying Dec. 1, 1843. He was an old line Whig in politics and he and his wife members of the Baptist church. His children in the order of their birth were: Benjamin C., Nov. 12, 1820; John H., Feb. 9, 1823; George, Jan. 9, 1825; William, Jan. 11, 1827; Lewis, July 6, 1829; Samuel, July 11, 1831; Elizabeth, April 15, 1833; Diantha, July 3, 1835; Edwin, April 9, 1837; Sylvester, May 27, 1839; Polly P., Sept. 1, 1843. Of these, Samuel, Edwin and Sylvester enlisted as members of the Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, Samuel being killed at the battle of Guntown, Miss.

After his marriage in 1854, Mr. Frary and wife settled on the prairie homestead, remaining there until 1879. His father and only brother having died in the meantime (the former in 1861), the property fell into his hands. By industry and good management he has added to the estate until he is now the owner of 640 acres of good land in a high state of improvement. Politically he is one of the early Republicans of McHenry County, and was a supporter of John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln in 1856 and 1860. The public positions held

by him include those of Township Supervisor for five years, and School Trustee for many years. Three daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Frary: Emma D., Lettie L. and Laura E. In a life of over seventy years he has acquired a wide reputation for thrift, public spirit and straight-forward integrity.

#### HAMLIN FENNER.

One of the pioneers of McHenry County, and a son of a pioneer, is Hamlin Fenner of Hebron Township, where he is a highly respected citizen. The founders of the Fenner family in America were members of the old Swedish colony which settled on the Delaware River before the arrival of William Penn. Thomas Fenner, the father of Hamlin, was the son of Felix and Elizabeth (Clark) Fenner—the latter a native of Scotland. The children of Felix and Elizabeth (Clark) Fenner were: Henry, John, Lawrence, Thomas and Mary. Thomas was born in Philadelphia, April 15, 1795, where his father died of yellow-fever when the son was three years old. After the father's death the children were brought up by relatives. Thomas was taken in charge by an uncle, Daniel Campbell, whom he accompanied to Albany, N. Y., where he remained from the time he was ten years old until he reached his majority. His mother married for her second husband John Barnard, a sea captain. The mother died in Philadelphia.

Thomas Fenner was brought up a farmer and, at twenty-one years of age, went with his brother Lawrence to Green County, N. Y., where they bought a farm and lived for some time. In 1826, Thomas Fenner married Louisiana Hamlin, who was born at Durham, Green County, N. Y., Sept. 13, 1804, the daughter of Dr. Amos and Hulda (Mudge) Hamlin. Dr. Hamlin belonged to the same stock as the Hamlin family of Maine, Hannibal Hamlin, elected Vice President on the ticket with Abraham Lincoln in 1860, being his second cousin. The Hamlin family were from London, England, and were among the early Puritan settlers in Connecticut Colony. Dr. Amos Hamlin, who was born and educated in Connecticut, married Hulda Mudge, and they were early settlers of Green County, N. Y., where he was well-known as a physician and enjoyed a large



practice in Durham and vicinity. Their children were Harriet, Louisa, Homera and Louisa. Dr. Hamlin's first wife having died, he was married a second time in Mohawk County, N. Y., the children of the second marriage being James, Emily, Amos, Jr., Carnot and Tompkins D. Dr. Hamlin enlisted as a soldier in the War of the Revolution at sixteen years of age, and served to its close. An old-fashioned oil-painting portrait of him, painted by his son Amos, is preserved by Mr. Hamlin Fenner of Hebron. Dr. Hamlin died at Durham, N. Y., April, 1843, aged seventy-six years.

Thomas Fenner lived on the farm bought by himself and his brother Lawrence, finally buying the interest of the latter. In 1841 he moved to Orleans County, N. Y., where he bought an improved farm upon which he lived until 1846. The children of this family were Hamlin, born Jan. 8, 1828; Helen, born April 24, 1829; Elizabeth M., born March 23, 1833; Harriet, born July 14, 1835; Lawrence, born Feb. 18, 1837; Homer, born Dec. 3, 1839; Thomas Clark, born Dec. 12, 1841—all born in Green County, N. Y.—and Isabella, born in Orleans County, N. Y., April 21, 1843. In May, 1846, Mr. Fenner moved with his family to Illinois, making the journey by canal and the lakes to Racine, Wis., and with teams to Hebron Township, McHenry County. Here he bought 200 acres of partly improved land, paying for it ten dollars per acre. This farm is three and one-half miles from Hebron village, and is still owned by Hamlin Fenner. Mr. Fenner improved his land and here established a good homestead. He died Nov. 13, 1851, at fifty-five years of age; his wife died in English Prairie in 1856. Originally a Free-Soil Democrat, Mr. Fenner became a Republican on the organization of that party. In early life he was a member of the New York State militia. Industrious, high-minded and of straight-forward character, he reared an excellent family to whom he left an honored name.

Hamlin Fenner received a common-school education in his native State and, at eighteen years of age, came with his parents to Illinois, where he obtained ten months schooling. He was brought up a farmer, and, on Feb. 23, 1859, was married at Genoa Junction, McHenry County, to Phoebe Allen Hodge, who

was born at Dorset, Vt., June 22, 1832, the daughter of Benjamin and Minerva (Farwell) Hodge. Isaac Farwell, the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Fenner, was a farmer of Dorset, Vt., and lived to the age of one hundred and two years. Benjamin Hodge was of English Puritan and Vermont stock, his father James Hodge, being a merchant of Dorset, who lived there several years and finally died there. His children were James A., Benjamin, Harvey (who is still living at Dorset, Vt., at the age of ninety-one years), and Lucy. Benjamin was born at Dorset, March 22, 1809, received a common school education and was engaged in mercantile business with his brother James A., at the old stand of their father. The maternal grandfather of Benjamin Hodge was John Kent, who was a farmer of Dorset, Vt., of English descent, and was for many years a deacon in the Presbyterian church there, dying at the age of one hundred years. Benjamin Hodge's children—all born in Dorset—were Phoebe A., James A., Jr., Sarah L., Roderick W. and Georgiana. Benjamin Hodge moved to Illinois, accompanied by his brother James A., in 1857, arriving in Hebron Township, Oct. 12, and settled on 360 acres of improved land, upon which he made further improvements and erected good buildings. Having sold his farm in McHenry County, he removed to Nebraska, where he bought land, dying there in 1896 at the age of eighty-seven years. In early life he was a member of the Congregational church, politically was a Republican and a practical abolitionist. Industrious and self-reliant, with a reputation for strict integrity, he accumulated his property by his own efforts. He had two sons who took part as soldiers in the Civil War—James A. and Roderick W. The former served as Second Lieutenant in a Wisconsin regiment, and died in hospital as the result of exposure in army life. Roderick W., enlisted at eighteen years of age in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving one year and participating in many battles.

After marriage Hamlin Fenner settled on the old Fenner homestead, improved the farm and erected substantial farm buildings. His children—all born on the farm—were: Lizzie H., born August 6, 1860; Isabella M., born May 18, 1866, and Sarah G., born May 10, 1881. Politically he is a zealous Republican and cast

his votes for Fremont and Lincoln; has held the office of Assessor twelve years; was a member of the School Board for many years, and has been an active advocate of public improvements. Mrs. Fenner is a member of the Methodist church, while in religious faith Mr. Fenner is a Baptist and treasurer of his church, of which he is a liberal supporter, assisting to build its church edifice. In her youth, Mrs. Fenner was for twelve years a member of the choir of the old Presbyterian church at Dorset, Vt., of which the Rev. Cyrus Hudson was long pastor. The choir consisted of thirty members, and the chorister was Simeon B. Cheney, the father of John Vance Cheney, now Librarian of the Newberry Library, Chicago.

On March 1, 1892, Mr. Fenner moved to Hebron village, bought residence property there and has retired from active business life. Thomas Clark Fenner, a brother of Hamlin, was a soldier of the Civil War, enlisting at the age of eighteen years in the Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he served as Corporal, and after taking part in many battles, was killed in the battle of Murfreesboro, Tenn.

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#### NORMAN FRAME.

Norman Frame (deceased), pioneer settler and well-known business man of Woodstock, McHenry County, Ill., was born in what is now the State of West Virginia, the son of James and Nancy (Keener) Frame. His father, James Frame, was a native of Bath County, Va., and son of David Frame, who emigrated at an early day to Braxton County, now in West Virginia. The family were of Irish descent. At the time of their arrival, this region was a mere wilderness but a veritable hunter's paradise, as it abounded with bear, deer and other wild game. The pioneer settlers lived largely on the fruits of the chase. Furs were abundant and found a ready sale, even though prices now would be esteemed moderate, as they were in demand for exportation. From this source were obtained goods by barter, as well as most of the money the early settlers were able to secure for use. Mr. Frame was a typical pioneer, as well as a noted bear-hunter, and from the sale of skins realized a considerable profit. Having settled near Charleston.

the present capital of West Virginia, he cleared a farm of about 200 acres and established a comfortable pioneer home where he spent his later years, dying at the age of seventy. In his early life he participated in the Indian wars which were so common in that period. Among his children the names of John, Thomas and James are remembered. James, the youngest of these, was married in what was then a part of Nicholas County, W. Va., to Nancy Keener, daughter of John and Phoebe Keener. John Keener was a farmer, as well as a hunter, and died in Braxton County, leaving children named John, James, William, Jacob and Andrew.

James Frame, mentioned in the preceding paragraph, by the purchase of a land-warrant, obtained a title to 200 acres of land on Elk River (a branch of the Great Kanawha), which he cleared and made his home. Like his relatives, he was a "mighty hunter," and had frequent encounters with bears whose skins he turned to commercial account. He became a mill-wright, and besides other work of this sort, erected a grist and saw-mill on Elk River, which he ran for a number of years. He was married twice—first, to Rebecca Boggs of Braxton, who was born in the same locality, the daughter of Francis and Rebecca Boggs. The children by this marriage were: Andrew, John, James, Hiram, William, Charles, Elizabeth, Jennie, Sarah and a daughter who died in infancy. His first wife having died, he married as his second wife Nancy Keener—the children of this marriage being Norman, David, Rebecca, Annie, Phoebe and Thomas. James Frame died in the wilderness some thirty miles from his home, where he was building a mill. He sustained a sterling reputation for integrity among his neighbors, the maxim, that "his word was as good as his bond," being applied to him.

Norman Frame, whose name heads this article, and the son of James Frame, was born, as already stated, in West Virginia, May 22, 1822. His opportunities for acquiring an education were limited to about three months' attendance on the common schools of his native State. His mother having died when he was quite young, and his father when he was only fourteen, as the eldest son by the second marriage, the responsibility of caring for the



younger members of the family fell largely upon him, although in this he had the aid of one of his half-sisters, who assumed the place of head of the family. He began hard work on the farm, remaining until he was nineteen years of age, when, in the spring of 1841, he came to McHenry County, Ill., in company with his half-brother, Charles, who was a married man and had already visited that region and selected land in Dorr Township. The journey was made by steamer from Charleston, W. Va., down the Kanawha and the Ohio to Cairo, and thence by the Mississippi and Illinois to Peru, and the remainder on foot to his destination. Here he remained with his brother two and a half years, when he returned with a two-horse team in company with William Given to West Virginia. During this visit to his native State, he was married in Braxton County, to Susannah Sandoe, a native of Pennsylvania, and daughter of George and Elizabeth (Reap) Sandoe, born in 1827. George Sandoe, the father of Mrs. Frame, was of sturdy Pennsylvania Dutch descent. The other children of the family—Susannah being the oldest—were Barbara, Adeline, Elizabeth, John, David and William. Mr. Sandoe died in West Virginia at the age of about forty years.

Mr. Frame remained in West Virginia about a year after his marriage, when he returned to Illinois by the same route he had taken in 1841, arriving in Dorr Township, May 28, 1846. He soon after bought eighty acres of land (consisting of prairie and "oak openings") at \$5.00 per acre. This he improved, erecting on it a small frame house, and adding thereto until he had 129 acres. After 1853 he removed to Seneca Township, where he purchased 100 acres of land, by additions increasing his holdings to 160 acres, a portion of which (some 20 acres) is included within the present corporation of Woodstock. He also bought 120 acres one mile west of Woodstock, which is still owned by his heirs, and later purchased a residence in Woodstock, where he resided for some twenty years. Mr. Frame also owned a tract of 210 acres adjoining the town of Woodstock, another of 120 acres and 400 acres in the Red River Valley of Minnesota, for which he paid \$20 an acre fifteen years ago. Besides this he owned 640 acres of farming land in the Red River region, together with

valuable holdings of town-lots in Woodstock, five dwelling houses, valuable milling property and a canning and pickle factory. The latter did a large business in the manufacture of what is known as the "Crescent" brand of pickles. In politics Mr. Frame was a Democrat. He had five children named James, Jane, Sarah, Burton and William. While essentially self-taught and self-made—compelled to gain his first inkling of an education, in part at least, by the light of a pine-knot in his native State of West Virginia—his business career was a conspicuous success, secured by indomitable industry and business tact, winning for him a reputation for high business integrity, as well as general recognition as one of the most substantial citizens of McHenry County. Mr. Frame died July 11, 1901.

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#### JOSIAH R. FORMAN.

Josiah R. Foreman, a retired farmer, Woodstock, Ill., was born at Ovid, Seneca County, N. Y., May 20, 1818, the son of Abraham and Hulda (Rhodes) Forman. The family is of English descent, and Isaac Forman, the grandfather of Josiah R., was a blacksmith by trade, carrying on his business for many years at Ovid. His children, who are remembered, were Isaac, Jonathan, Henry and Abraham. Isaac Forman lived to an advanced age, dying at Ovid. Abraham Forman was a shoemaker by trade, but in his younger days was engaged as captain of a vessel on the lake, and also as a drover. He married Hulda Rhodes, born in Connecticut, and in 1833, removed to Michigan, making the journey by way of the lakes to Detroit, whence he proceeded to Clinton, Mich. His family at this time, besides himself and wife, consisted of their children, Henry, James, Filinda, Josiah R., Emma and Nory—all born in Ovid, N. Y., and all of whom accompanied their parents to Michigan except Henry, who remained in his native State. Another son, William, was born in Clinton, Mich., where he and Mrs. Forman both died. The former was in bad health when he removed to Clinton, but survived some seven years. Abraham Forman was a soldier of the War of 1812 and received a land warrant for his services from the Government. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church.



Josiah R. Forman received a common-school education and, in consequence of his father's ill health, the care of the family soon devolved upon him. He began work and, being of frugal and industrious habits, saved a little money and induced his father to remove west, giving his small savings so assist him in doing so. On his arrival at Clinton he began driving a "breaking" team, and soon after bought his time from his father; then hired out to a Mr. Holman, a fanning-mill manufacturer, at \$100 per year, but at the end of three years his employer gave him a set of tools and began paying him \$1.25 per day. At the end of his time, after paying his expenses, he had saved \$400, which he gave to his father to assist him in buying a house and lot. Then going to Grand Rapids, Mich., he engaged in carpenter-work and assisted in erecting a carpenter-shop and a grist and saw-mill, remaining there three years. He next moved to Grand Haven, where he worked a short time, but in the spring of 1840 came to Kenosha, Wis. After working there two years, during which he assisted to build the pier and a warehouse, in 1842 he went to Waukegan, Ill., there being at that time only one frame house in the village. Here he remained seven years, and assisted in erecting many buildings in that infant city. Feb. 16, 1842, he was married, at Waukegan, to Priscilla Austin, who was born Nov. 1, 1817, at Unadilla, Otsego County, N. Y., the daughter of Pasco and Polly (Collins) Austin. The father was a native of Rhode Island and of English ancestry, while the Collinses were of French extraction.

Pasco Austin was a farmer, but also served as constable and tax collector. While a boy he removed with his father to New York State, the latter settling in Otsego County. A brother of Pasco's was a soldier in the War of 1812, who died in consequence of being wounded by a poisoned bullet. The children of the Austin family were: Angel, Isaiah, William, Seretha, Priscilla, Betsy, David and Pasco. The latter was the owner of a farm in Otsego County and a substantial citizen; was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and his apron is still preserved by his daughter Mrs. Forman. His death occurred about the age of forty-five, as the result of an accident caused by a pair of runaway colts, while his wife died

about the same age. Their children were: John, Rufus, Priscilla, Seretha (who died aged seventeen), Jerubel, Pasco, Isaiah, Sarah, Polly and Elisha—the latter born six months after the death of his father. The second son, Rufus, came west with Jere Porter, first settling near Kenosha, Wis., but afterwards bought a large tract of wild land. In the spring of 1840, his older brother, John, came west with their mother and the rest of the family. After coming west, the mother lived with Rufus, but died a year later, being cared for by her daughter Priscilla. Jere Porter, through whose influence the Austin family was induced to come west, though the father of twelve children, gave Rufus and the rest of the family material assistance in getting a home, and it was at his house that Josiah R. Forman and his wife Priscilla Austin, were married. After the death of her mother and until her marriage, she kept house for her brother Rufus.

After marriage, Mr. and Mr. J. R. Forman lived in Waukegan until 1849, when, having entered 160 acres of land in Hebron Township, McHenry County, he removed thither and began improving his land. He first built a board shanty, hauling the lumber a distance of forty miles from Waukegan, but afterwards erected a frame house, hewing the timber for the frame-work from trees cut on the land of Rufus Austin. William Austin was a settler in the same township. At a later date Mr. Forman built a frame barn on his home place, which is still standing. He hauled the timber to fence his farm twelve miles, splitting most of it into four foot slats, making an excellent slat fence. At this he worked during one winter, for forty consecutive days except Sundays. He still owns this farm consisting of 120 acres. By frugality, industry and self-sacrifice, Mr. and Mrs. Forman established here a good home. In 1868 he removed to Sioux City, Iowa, then a frontier post and outfitting point for the Black Hills, containing a population of about 5,000, including some of the roughest class. Returning to McHenry County in 1871, he soon went to Woodstock, where he worked at his trade and was engaged in contracting until some three years ago. He was also a contractor at Waukegan in his younger days, and assisted to build up the town, being one of its prosperous and energetic

business men. Mr. Forman is a man of sterling moral character and, in his political opinions, an earnest Republican, having cast his vote for Fremont and Lincoln for the Presidency in the early days of that party. He served as school director for many years. Mrs. Forman was a devoted and consistent member of the Methodist church, with which she united at seventeen years of age. One of Mr. Forman's harsh experiences in early life was in consequence of an attack of small-pox on Grand River, Michigan, where he was placed in a vacant house with a drunken Irishman as an attendant. His sufferings during this experience were unspeakable. Mr. and Mrs. Forman have been the parents of the following children: Emma S., who died in infancy; Antoinette; Emorette, who died a married woman, leaving a son, James Dunham, who was a soldier in the Philippines; Isaiah Austin, and James Henry.

James Henry Forman was born on the farm in Highland Prairie, August 23, 1857, received a common-school education and attended the grammar school at Woodstock, learned the photograph business with John Miller and, at nineteen years of age, went to Portland, Ore., where he was engaged in selling goods for a canning factory, with E. Shannon, his brother-in-law. Here he married Mary Stevenson and they became the parents of one son, Elvon Tracy. Returning to McHenry County, he began farming on the home farm, where his wife died. In 1884 he engaged in the teaming business. On Jan. 27, 1887, he was married, in Woodstock, to Clara Adelaide Carpenter, who was born at Plain View, Wabasha County, Minn., the daughter of George W. and Lucy (Judd) Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter was a native of Meadville, Penn. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Forman settled on the home farm, where they remained until 1894, when they moved to Woodstock. In 1897 he engaged in his present business as a dealer in newspapers and periodicals, books and stationery, which he has conducted successfully. In politics he is a Republican, and fraternally a member of the Modern Woodmen and of the Knights of the Globe—in the former having held the office of Worthy Vice in Woodstock Lodge two years. Mrs. Forman was a member of the Methodist church. By his last marriage Mr. Forman has

one son—Percy Raymond. "Jim" Forman, as he is familiarly called by his friends, is a man of genial disposition and is noted for his kindness of heart and strict integrity.

Mr. and Mrs. Josiah R. Forman celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage in February, 1902. Mrs. Forman died Oct. 30, 1902, lacking one day of eighty-five years of age.

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#### CHARLES L. FILLMORE.

Charles L. Fillmore, Postmaster and Justice of the Peace, Union, Ill., is one of the reliable citizens of McHenry County, and the son of a pioneer and soldier of the Civil War. His father, William J. Fillmore, was born in Middletown, Vt., July 10, 1831, the son of Luther and Susan (Huggins) Fillmore. The Fillmores are descended from the colonial and Puritan ancestry, which early became identified with Connecticut Colony. John Fillmore, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and of the same stock as President Fillmore, was the son of Luther Fillmore who died in 1792. Another Luther Fillmore, the son of John and the grandfather of Charles L., who was born near Middletown, Vt., in 1804, was a blacksmith by trade and married in the vicinity of his birthplace Susan Huggins, who was of Welsh descent. Their children were John (who died young), Ann Jeanette, Henry, Charles, William, Helen, Hulda, Charlotte, Elvira, Luther D., Millard and Sylvanus. Luther Fillmore came to McHenry County in 1854, with his son William J., who had already settled at Coral, McHenry County, and returned to Vermont for his father's family. On arrival at Coral Luther Fillmore engaged with his sons William J. and Charles in the manufacture of wagons, and in their blacksmith shop were manufactured the first plows made in that part of McHenry County, and this business they carried on quite extensively for that early period. Here he remained until 1862 or '63, when he removed to the village of Union, and there carried on the blacksmith business until his final retirement from active life. This Luther Fillmore was a member of the Congregational church in which he was a deacon, and he assisted to build the Congregational church at Union. He held the office of Justice



of the Peace for many years, and his docket is still preserved. He died at the home of his son, Charles, in Marengo, at the age of eighty-two years. He enjoyed the reputation of a man of sound judgment and high integrity of character.

William J. Fillmore, the son of the preceding, was born, as stated in the beginning of this sketch, near Middletown, Vt., received the ordinary common-school education of that period, which he supplemented by the reading of good books later in life, and became a well-informed man. He came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1853, when about twenty-two years of age, and settled in the village of Coral. Here, in company with his brother Charles, he started a wagon manufactory. A year later he returned to Vermont and brought out his father as related in the sketch of the latter. The Fillmores continued the wagon manufacturing business until 1862, when William J. enlisted as a private in the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, where he was soon assigned to the Quartermaster's Department as assistant to Quartermaster Frank Hale. Having returned to McHenry County after the war, he settled in Union, whither his wife had removed during his absence in the service.

Mr. Fillmore was married twice; first in Vermont, when but nineteen years of age, to Henrietta Hastings, who died soon after. On Jan. 10, 1855, he was married in Coral, McHenry County, to Mary Elizabeth Lyman, who was a native of Buffalo, N. Y., and daughter of Charles and Alma (Huntington) Lyman. Left an orphan at an early age, she came with her two brothers, Charles and William, to McHenry County. William J. Fillmore and wife were the parents of the following named children: William Herbert, born Oct. 1856; Henrietta, born April, 1859; Charles L., born Aug. 20, 1861; Frank M., born June, 1864; Edith M., born June, 1869; and Earnest F., born Nov. 27, 1871. After his return from the war, Mr. Fillmore entered into the employment of a hardware firm in Chicago as a traveling salesman, remaining with them until 1868, when, having been seriously injured in a railway accident at Elgin, he was confined to his bed seventeen weeks. Having recovered, he resumed his business as a commercial

traveler for another Chicago firm, with which he remained until 1871, when the firm having failed, he engaged in the wagon-making business on his own account. This he continued until 1887, when he removed to Elgin, and became traveling agent for a wholesale paper house. Here Mrs. Fillmore died in 1891. Mr. Fillmore is still living, and, notwithstanding his advancing years and hard experience during a part of his life, enjoys a good degree of physical and mental vitality. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church at Marengo and in politics he is a Republican; is also a member of the Union Lodge A. F. & A. M., and of Elgin Post Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Fillmore was Postmaster of the village of Coral before the Civil War, and has also occupied the position of Collector for Coral Township.

CHARLES L. FILLMORE, son of the preceding, was born in Coral Township, August 20, 1861, and received a common-school education in the village of Union, where he was taken in infancy by his mother during the Civil War, his father being then in the service of his country in the field. In 1880, at the age of about nineteen years, young Fillmore went to Elgin, and there was engaged in the lightning-rod business some years, but still later was connected with the Watch Factory at Elgin for seven years. On Nov. 27, 1884, he was married at Woodstock, McHenry County, to Anna Gubbins, who was born in Elgin, in 1863, the daughter of James and Mary Gubbins, of English ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Fillmore had one child, Walter L., who was born July 3, 1886, Mrs. Fillmore dying on the same date. On Nov. 1, 1889, Mr. Fillmore was married at Geneva, Ill., to Eleanor E. Sanford, the widow of Carson Sanford. She was born at Ashford, England, Feb. 7, 1868, the daughter of John and Emma Jarrett, and came to the United States with her parents, who settled at Genoa, Ill., but afterwards removed to Elgin, Ill. Mrs. Jarrett, the mother of Mrs. Fillmore, is now deceased, but Mr. Jarrett still survives, making his home with his son in Elgin, Ill. To Mr. and Mrs. Fillmore have been born seven children: William J., born June 5, 1891; Charles M., born April 1, 1894; Dora M., born March 9, 1896; Zillah A., born March 8, 1898; Barbara Ruth, born Dec. 10, 1899; Alice J.,



born August 21, 1901; and Ethel A., born June 25, 1903. Mrs. Fillmore is a member of the Congregational church. In politics Mr. Fillmore is a Republican and fraternally a member of the order of Modern Woodmen, in which he holds the office of Consul. For the past five years he has held the office of Justice of the Peace, and for two years has been Postmaster of the village of Union, and during the present year (1903) was elected Village Clerk. He is recognized as a capable business man and a representative citizen of straight-forward life and character.

#### THE GILLMORE FAMILY.

This family is of Scotch blood and descends from the Gillmores of Renfrewshire, Scotland, who settled in Londonderry, Ireland, after the establishment of the plantation of 1612. The name Gillmore, under its various forms, is indigenous to the lowlands of Scotland, where it has existed from remote times. During that period in Scotland when government was based on clanship, the Gillmore was one who carried the chief's broad-sword, and was probably selected for his size and strength. Sir John Gillmore, who defended the Duke of Argyle before the Scotch Parliament, belonged to this family.

The Scotch have ever been a thriving and practical people, and although living in a poor and rugged country, were renowned for their progress and education. They early began to read and think for themselves, and John Knox first taught that schools should be maintained by the State for the education of all children. With him compulsory education for the poor was a leading principle, and the Scotch had the first free schools in the world.

The Gillmore family entered Ireland from Argyleshire, as that was contiguous territory, but the ancient homes of the Gillmores were in the western lowlands of Scotland, a few miles south of Glasgow. In religious matters the emigrants were similar to the Puritans of England, but different in church government. The Bible was their first school book, and from it the children were taught to read, besides being required to commit the catechism to memory.

Robert Gillmore, the founder of this branch

of the Gillmore family in America, was born near Coleraine, Ireland, about 1660, and emigrated to America, probably reaching Boston with the Rev. James McGregor, Oct. 14, 1718. On arrival in America, so far as is known, his family consisted of his wife (formerly Marian Kennedy) and their four sons—William, James, John and Robert, Jr. The family were well educated and in good circumstances. They resided, for a time, at Billerica, Massachusetts Bay, and then between 1724 and 1726, settled at Londonderry, N. H.

On March 25, 1724, David Cargill executed to Robert Gillmore a deed of conveyance of seventy acres of land in consideration of "Ye building a fulling mill," doubtless the first mill erected in the town of Londonderry. Robert Gillmore was thus not only a mechanic, but understood the appliances necessary for the manufacture of cloth. He lived to the age of eighty years, dying in 1742. The children of Robert and Marian Gillmore were William, born near Coleraine, Ireland, in 1685, and died at Londonderry, N. H., May 9, 1753; John, who never married and probably died at Londonderry, N. H.; James, born near Coleraine, Ireland, in 1695, and died at Londonderry, N. H., in 1745, and Robert, who is mentioned below.

Marian Kennedy, wife of Robert Gillmore, Sr., born near Coleraine, Ireland, was descended from the Scotch Kennedys, who occupied the territory of Carrick from ancient times. They were one of the noted families of Scotland. The mother of Robert Bruce was a Kennedy of Carrick.

**Second Generation.**—Robert, son of Robert and Marian (Kennedy) Gillmore, was born near Coleraine, Ireland, in 1700, and when about eighteen years old, came with his parents to Massachusetts. He remained at Billerica, Mass., until about 1726-8, when he joined the colony at Londonderry, N. H. He became a land-owner and was well-to-do. In 1758 he was chosen to collect the church tax. The name of his first wife was Ann—her full name not being known. By the first marriage there were two children: James, born Sept. 20, 1731, and Elizabeth, born May 1, 1733. By his second wife, Elizabeth, there were six children, all of whom were born at Londonderry, N. H.: John, born May 3, 1737, and died April 8, 1813;



*O. H. Gillmore*





Roger, born July 31, 1739, and died Nov. 15, 1807; Miriam, born Sept. 27, 1742, and died sometime after 1815; Jemima, born Feb. 3, 1744, and died March 29, 1774; Robert, who is mentioned below; William, born Nov. 22, 1751, and died Feb. 18, 1831. The father of this family was prominent in both military and civil affairs in Londonderry, serving in Capt. Todd's company from 1758 to 1760. He died in Londonderry April 3, 1782, in his eighty-third year. His wife, Elizabeth Hunnewell, descended from a prominent New England family, Robert Hunnewell having settled at Saco, in the present State of Maine, where he died in 1754. He was a noted Indian fighter, and in a personal encounter, killed an Indian with his scythe. He was afterward killed and mutilated by the Indians. Roger, the brother of Elizabeth Hunnewell, fought at Louisburg, where he lost an arm. Four of the sons of Robert Gillmore (2) were officers in the War of the Revolution. They were Capt. James, John (who served at Cambridge), Capt. Roger and Robert.

**Third Generation.**—Robert Gillmore, son of Robert and Elizabeth (Hunnewell) Gillmore, was born in Londonderry, N. H., July 4, 1749. When twenty-four years of age he removed to Jaffrey, N. H., near the great Monadnock Mountain, where he settled on land received from his father. He married Elizabeth Andrus, who was born Sept. 18, 1759, and removed about 1799 to Swansey, N. H., but returned to Jaffrey about 1800, and finally settled at Potsdam, N. Y., where he died Nov. 15, 1816. By occupation he was a farmer and carpenter, and the family were highly esteemed. His father disapproved of his marriage and cut him off with a small patrimony. His wife was a Universalist and a woman of marked ability, and in religious discussions quite able to contend vigorously with any of the clergy. Robert (3) spoke with a broad Scotch brogue. He was a man of strong mind and impressed on his family the necessity of intellectual improvement and an honorable course in life. He was a Revolutionary soldier, fought at Bunker Hill and Bennington, and at the last named battle was a private in Captain Stone's company, Col. Nichols' regiment of Gen. Starke's brigade. He belonged to the old training band at Jaffrey and served at Camp Cambridge. He also

served in Capt. Parker's company, recruited out of Col. Enoch Hale's regiment in 1776, for service in the northern army at Ticonderoga. His sons were large, powerful men and, with one exception, over six feet in height, weighing from 220 to 250 pounds each.

The children of Robert and Elizabeth (Andrus) Gillmore were: Jemima, born March 6, 1778; Jeremiah, October, 1779; Anna N., born July 16, 1781; Sarah, April 27, 1783; Elizabeth, April 4, 1785; Sallie, March 26, 1787; Andrew, March 22, 1789; Aaron, June 30, 1791; Asa, Dec. 26, 1793, and William, March 6, 1799.

**Fourth Generation.**—Aaron Gillmore, son of Robert and Elizabeth (Andrus) Gillmore, was born in Jaffrey, N. H. He served in the War of 1812, as Corporal in Capt. Ripley's company, Thirty-seventh United States Infantry, from June 11, 1813, to June 11, 1814, at Ft. Griswold (New London). He was honorably discharged and went to Potsdam, N. Y., where, on March 15, 1818, he married Miss Betsy Dickerson, who was born May 9, 1799.

Aaron Gillmore was a man of great physical strength. While he had no more than a common-school education, he was a careful biblical student and well informed on many subjects. A relative with whom he passed the last years of his life, said: "Aaron Gillmore was the best man I ever knew." Most of his life was spent as a pioneer in a new country. He was a Whig in politics, but later a Republican. His wife was of Welsh descent. On her mother's side she was related to the Royce family of Potsdam. Aaron Gillmore died April 29, 1873. His wife died Aug. 10, 1870, both deaths occurring in Norfolk, N. Y.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Gillmore are as follows: Harvey, born May 8, 1819, and whose record is given below; Alvira, born Feb. 4, 1821, and died Dec. 17, 1884; Andrew, born June 18, 1823, and died Nov. 12, 1825; Alfred, born Sept. 8, 1826, and died Feb. 25, 1895; Clarinda, born Sept. 8, 1828, and died Feb. 14, 1834; Harriet, born Aug. 4, 1833, and died young; Charles, born Sept. 8, 1836; George, born Dec. 21, 1837. Charles Gillmore of this family, served twenty years on an American man-of-war and, for many years, was not heard from, but returned home between 1880 and 1890. He later re-enlisted in the navy, serving until 1891, when on going ashore in New

York, he was attacked with pneumonia, and died at the Sailor's Home. He left on deposit in New York and Boston \$3,000.

**Fifth Generation.**—Harvey, son of Aaron and Betsy (Dickerson) Gillmore, was born at Potsdam, N. Y. His early life was spent in rural pursuits and he received a fair education in the common schools. On reaching his majority he entered the employ of Justice Webber, of Norfolk, N. Y., who carried on a large farm and operated a blast furnace. Having remained here four years, he then went to Wisconsin, where he worked in the pineries and rafted timber down the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers.

On February 15, 1847, Mr. Gillmore married Esther (Richardson) Sawyer, and in 1854, moved to Marengo, Ill., where he engaged in farming. In the fall of 1864, he bought a farm two and one-half miles southwest of Marengo, settling on it the next winter. In 1867 he was attacked with a severe form of bronchial asthma, which incapacitated him for labor and caused him intense suffering. In the year 1875 he sold his farm and bought a small place near Woodstock, where he resided until his death. He was a member of the Scotch Presbyterian church. He was well informed, as it had been his practice to read every substantial book he could obtain. He was well versed in European and American history and possessed an extensive biographical knowledge. When a young man, he had powers of great endurance, and has been known to walk sixty miles in a day without injury. He was a successful farmer and was accumulating property rapidly when stricken by disease. In early life Mr. Gillmore was a Whig, but became a Republican on the organization of that party. He never aspired to office, was broad-minded, liberal to a fault, absolutely honest and highly respected. He died at his residence, near Woodstock, Ill., Jan. 13, 1877.

Mrs. Harvey Gillmore was born at Stockbridge, Vt., Aug. 15, 1824. Her father moved with his family to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and settled on a farm in the town of Norfolk. The family was of Scotch descent but the date of their arrival in America is unknown. Their earliest known place of residence was Westmoreland, Cheshire County, N. H. Her grandfather, Jonathan Sawyer, enlisted from this

place for service at the battle of Bennington. He was sixteen years of age at the time of the battle of Bunker Hill, and was one of the picked men for that engagement. He was also in the battles of Princeton, Stillwater, Trenton and Yorktown. Mrs. Gillmore was very skillful with her needle, and her work in this line display rare design as well as execution. She had a good education and before marriage was an excellent teacher. Her great-grandmother was Jemima Webster, also a native of New Hampshire. To Mrs. Gillmore's great energy and judgment the success of the family was largely due. During her whole life she was a most exemplary Christian and in later years, as long as her health would permit, a regular attendant of the Methodist church. After her husband's death she was an invalid and resided with her son, Judge Gillmore. She died July 11, 1897. Their children were Orson Harris, born June 17, 1848, at Norfolk, St. Lawrence County, N. Y.; Russell, born June 6, 1851, and died March 22, 1852, at Norfolk, N. Y., the place of his birth.

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#### ORSON HARRIS GILLMORE.

From the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth until the uprising of Charles I., about 20,000 emigrants came over from old England to New England. The English emigration was never renewed, and from these men, with those who came from Scotland and France, are descended the vast numbers who have New England blood in their veins. From two of these sources, the Scotch (or Scotch-Irish, as they are erroneously called) and the English Puritans, came the subject of this sketch, Judge Orson Harris Gillmore. On the paternal side, the line is of sterling Scotch, unmixed, the English Puritan strain coming through intermarriages. It is good stock on both sides—none better, none abler in peace, none braver in war. There is in it an inheritance of courage, of manliness, of imperishable love of liberty, of undying adherence to principle.

Judge Gillmore was born, June, 1848, in Norfolk, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., and in 1854, when but six years of age, came with his parents to McHenry County, Ill. The journey was made by the lakes to Chicago, where the family arrived during the summer.



*Mrs. O. H. Gillmore.*





Young Gillmore worked on a farm during the summer season, and attended the district schools in the townships of Marengo and Riley during the winter months, until he was seventeen years of age, and thus became inured, in his youth, to the quiet and healthful farm life in which have been reared many of our ablest Americans. The ill health of his father early threw the care of the farm upon him, and the discipline of facing the stern realities of life added its force to the development of his character. At the age of seventeen he began to attend a private school at Marengo, taught by Miss Hattie Carleton, a successful and experienced teacher. Young Gillmore early evinced the natural powers of the debater and speaker, and endeavored, by honest, hard study, to improve his mind and to develop his oratorical powers. In the old-time school much attention was devoted to training the boys in the art of public-speaking, it being properly deemed a necessity to educate the young citizens of a republic to be able to address their fellow-citizens at a public meeting; and thus many of the foremost American statesmen received their early training, while some of the most eloquent orators who have adorned the halls of Congress had no other. Under the instruction of Miss Carleton, young Gillmore soon became skilled in declamation, showing so much ability that his teacher was impressed with his unusual aptitude and advised him to study law, which he resolved to do. He soon after applied to Hon. Ira R. Curtiss, of Marengo, a well-known lawyer and highly respected citizen of that town. Mr. Curtiss encouraged his young applicant, advising him to begin with "Walker's American Law," loaning him the work. Young Gillmore took the book home to the farm and read it while in the field and at every interval of farm work, and by the fireside during the long evenings after his hard day's work. During the winter of 1869 he read law in Mr. Curtiss' office and walked three miles each way between the office and farm. He attended to the chores, cared for thirty head of cattle and arose every morning between three and four o'clock, and frequently pursued his legal studies until eleven o'clock at night. He lived on simple food, keeping his brain clear and active, and in this severe school acquired a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of law that have remained in the powerful grasp of his

memory to this day, and will be a part of his mentality until his death.

Besides his studies with Mr. Curtiss, young Gillmore read law in the office of Hon. A. B. Coon, of Marengo, one of the legal giants of Northern Illinois, and who served as Provost Marshal during the Civil War. He was also Master in Chancery in McHenry County four years. Mr. Coon took a great interest in his hardworking young law student, and believing his abilities to be such that he would become a credit to the bar of Illinois, loaned him \$400 with which to pursue his legal studies in the law department of the University of Ann Arbor, Mr. Coon requiring only of his young friend that he repay him when able, which trust was faithfully fulfilled.

Mr. Gillmore entered the law department at Ann Arbor, from which he graduated in 1873 and began the practice of his profession in Woodstock in 1874. He soon succeeded in establishing a good legal business and became one of the leading lawyers at the McHenry County bar. In 1882 he was elected County Judge, serving continuously until 1890, when he resigned to accept a position on the Pension Board of Appeals at Washington, where he remained five and one-half years, until the change of administration. He was then re-elected to the office of County Judge, a position which he still holds and in which he enjoys the respect and confidence of the people to a marked degree.

Besides his duties on the bench of McHenry County, Judge Gillmore frequently holds court in Chicago for Judge Carter, by whom his knowledge of law is highly esteemed. (It is but just to mention here that Judge Gillmore's opinions have been generally affirmed by the higher courts at Springfield.) Judge Gillmore is noted as a wise legal counselor and his advice has always been much sought after, especially by people who wish to avoid legal entanglements.

Politically, Judge Gillmore has, from his earliest manhood, been a stanch Republican. When a young man the vital questions growing out of the Civil War took firm hold upon him, and he made his first political speech when but twenty years of age, having been invited by some members of the Grant Club of Riley Township to address them. The speech was made in the school house. It was a bad, rainy night and the meeting, which was attended by

about one dozen persons, proved a dismal failure. One week later he was invited by the Grant Club of Marengo, to speak in Lansing's hall. This meeting was largely attended and the young orator made an impassioned appeal to the voters. This time he made a marked impression and the Republicans were delighted, but a dampness was thrown on their ardor when a Chicago drummer who was present remarked: "Your man is a pretty shrewd fellow, but I heard the same speech delivered by John A. Logan a short time since." This shock fell like a bomb-shell and many people believed it; but later in the campaign Mr. Gillmore made another more powerful speech, which effectually dispelled all doubt as to his ability and originality.

In the days of hard work and small beginnings, his character was formed, his mind strengthened and his memory rendered retentive by exercise, until few men have a more tenacious hold on historical events. What a wonderful fount is memory! We probe its depths and there comes forth a wail of sorrow; again the voice of gladness; anything, everything is there, and ready at any moment, and who would have it changed even if there are some dark spots?

The peculiar method by which young Gillmore strengthened his memory is of interest. While engaged in hard work on the farm, he was daily accustomed to compose some few lines, and unaided by writing, committed them to memory. This not only assisted him in composition, but acted as a wonderful stimulus to his memory. In this way he soon began to compose his own declamations for school work, and afterwards thought out his early political speeches and committed them to memory, *verbatim et literatim*, with all the finished periods exactly as he delivered them. Keeping on in this way, his memory became so firm that he has been known to deliver a long and finished oration and, years after, repeat it word for word, which is a feat of memory unparalleled as far as the experience of the writer goes. The Judge's method is to make an exhaustive study of the subject on which he is to speak, thoroughly assimilate the matter, arrange the sentences in his mind with all the ornaments of the practiced orator, and go upon the platform and deliver it without a break in its full flow of polished eloquence. It may be said, however, that Judge Gillmore's memory is best

on his productions that have never seen print, and that in recent years, as the result of experience and thought, he has delivered many of his most forcible speeches extemporaneously, and that he is very frequently carried away by the enthusiasm of the subject and the occasion.

Immediately after his first effort at speech-making, Judge Gillmore entered the political arena and has since been an active participant in every campaign with the exception of that of 1876. Among his co-laborers have been such men as the famous Solon Chase, of Maine (the great Greenbacker), Gen. John A. Logan and Hon. Shelby M. Cullom. Judge Gillmore made many speeches in the first campaign of Benjamin Harrison, being on the road most of the time, day and night, until, when the end of the campaign was reached, he was utterly exhausted and partially disabled for a long time.

Judge Gillmore is not only an eloquent and powerful orator and a successful debater, but he has inherited from his Celtic ancestors a natural taste for poetry, and from some beautiful productions of his pen, we quote the following:

#### Mother's Love.

"Search the continents vast and the isles of the sea,  
Break the seal of the past, lift the veil to be,  
There is nothing so lovely, there's naught so complete,  
As the love of a mother, pure, tender and sweet.

"Night's host has a voice, impressive, though still,  
The heaving of ocean may move us to tears,  
Yet they stir not the soul with so holy a thrill  
As the thoughts of that love which is changeless for years.

"Death in its course of destruction may sever  
All matter from form, all beauty from art,  
Yet it breaks not the stream that is flowing forever  
Through Maker to man, through the true mother's heart."

Judge Gillmore has been twice married, first to Miss Cora Coon, daughter of Hon. A. B. Coon, who is now deceased. They had one daughter, Harriet Esther, now the wife of Dunklin E. Thames, who resides with her husband at Greenville, Ala. In 1881, the Judge mar-



ried as his second wife, Miss Annie Granger, daughter of George S. and Susan (Crawford) Granger.

Launcelot Granger, the founder of the Granger family in America, was of old English stock, and came from England in 1632, settling first on Kent Island, Mass., whence he removed to Ipswich, Conn., where he died. George S. Granger, the father of Mrs. Gillmore, was born at Sodus, Wayne County, N. Y., Jan 28, 1821, the son of Lyman and Achsah (Wells) Granger. His wife, Susan (Crawford) Granger, was born in West Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y., June 12, 1821. The Crawfords were of Scotch-Irish descent and, in 1837, moved from West Bloomfield to Troy, Oakland County, N. Y. In early manhood George S. Granger moved with his parents to Columbus, St. Clair County, Mich., where, besides helping to open up the home farm, he purchased land for himself becoming the owner of a 240-acre farm. Mr. Granger was well educated, having spent two years in college and in addition read law with James Eldridge, in Mt. Clemens, Mich. He was a cousin of Gen. Gordon Granger, and during the War of the Rebellion, a strong Union man raising a volunteer company of which he was elected captain, but was unable to serve on account of physical disability. During the same period he served as Township Supervisor, being Chairman of the County Board for more than 20 years, and rendered excellent service in caring for the soldiers' widows and children. It was largely due to his efforts that the full quota of soldiers was enlisted from his township. In political opinions he was a firm believer in the Democratic principles taught by Jefferson and Jackson. Both Mr. and Mrs. Granger died on the home farm in Columbus, St. Clair County, Mich., his death occurring in March, 1892, at the age of seventy-two years, and that of his wife in November, 1877. They were the parents of three children, named as follows: Elizabeth Crawford, William Wallace and Annie (Mrs. O. H. Gillmore).

Judge and Mrs. Gillmore have one son, Robert Harvey, born June 7, 1888. They are members of the Presbyterian church of Woodstock. Mrs. Gillmore is a lady of education and culture, being a graduate of the State University at Ann Arbor, Mich., of the class of 1874,—the first in that institution to which women were

admitted. After fitting for college she was, on this account, obliged to wait one year before she could enter. She has had an extensive experience as a teacher, having taught in the high schools of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa, and for some years has been a member of the Board of Education of Woodstock. She and her husband are members of the Presbyterian church.

Faternally Judge Gillmore is associated with the Masonic Order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a member of the Hamilton Club of Chicago, and an ex-member of the Veteran Union League of the same city.

Judge Gillmore is one of the best-known and most honored citizens of McHenry County. A popular orator, there are few hamlets in McHenry County in which his voice has not been heard in some good cause as the earnest champion of the common people. He has also delivered many orations before large audiences in Chicago and other cities, which have received high praise from the press, and he is held in high esteem as an eloquent and brilliant public speaker. Possessing a vigorous and earnest personality, his manner upon the rostrum is very impressive. He is one of those men who, by determined effort, has hewn out his path from the farm to the bench, and has opened up for himself a career as an educated man. He is an extensive reader of history and scientific works, especially such as pertain to the origin of the races, and his retentive memory renders him a pleasing and instructive conversationalist. There is no man in Illinois more earnest and honest in a firm adherence to right. Entertaining a deep interest in the genealogy and history of the Gillmore family, he has visited many early homes of the founders of the family in America, in search of information on this subject. In this respect he has as predecessors such men as Benjamin Franklin, the greatest of American citizens, the martyred President Garfield, and Daniel Webster, the great statesman, who has written as follows:

"It did not happen to me to be born in a log cabin, but my older brothers and sisters were born in a log cabin, raised amid the snow drifts of New Hampshire at a period so early that, when the smoke first rose from its rude chimney and curled over the frozen hills, there was no similar evidence of a white man's habitation between it and the settlements on the rivers of Canada. Its remains still exist. I

carry my children to it to teach them the hardships endured by the generations which have gone before them. I love to dwell on the tender recollections, the kindred ties, the early affections and the touching narratives and incidents which mingle with all I know of this primitive abode."

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#### MRS. LOUISA C. GATES.

Mrs. Louisa C. Gates is one of the pioneer women of McHenry County and belongs to a family of old New England ancestry. She was born in Massachusetts near the Connecticut line, daughter of Almon and Lamont (Robe) Holcomb.

Almon Holcomb was a farmer and married in Southworth, Mass., Lamont Robe, a lady of Scotch descent. Their children were: Emeline, Wilson, Caroline, Dwight, Eliza, Louisa C., Edward, Elijah, Cordelia and Lyman. Mr. Holcomb moved to Illinois in 1838 and settled on Ringwood Prairie. His wife died in 1843, and he returned to Southworth, Mass., where he died June 5, 1868, aged about eighty-four years. He was a prosperous and respected man, a member of the Methodist church, and a soldier in the War of 1812. His father was a Captain in the War of the Revolution and descended from good English stock, the family bearing a coat of arms.

Louisa C. Holcomb, now Mrs. Gates, came to McHenry County with her parents, and can well remember the pioneer scenes and incidents, which she relates with much pleasure. In early life she taught school in the family of George Boone, a well-known pioneer, who then lived on what is known as the old Pettitt place. In Nov., 1841, she married Nathan S. Hait, who was a native of Madison County, N. Y., his parents being very old settlers of that region. Mr. Hait learned the blacksmith trade in his native county. After completing his studies he started on a tour of observation through the Southern States, but meeting an intimate friend, Henry Owen, a well-known resident of McHenry County, he visited his family and was induced to locate in McHenry, and here opened a blacksmith shop. When the town of McHenry was platted the few citizens drew lots, and Mr. Hait chose the spot where Rev. Joel Wheeler pitched his tent on his arrival in the county. To Mr. and Mrs. Nathan S. Hait were born two sons, one of whom died

in infancy, and Wilson S., who is still living at the old home. When Mr. Hait arrived in McHenry County, he had no capital but was a skillful mechanic and a successful farmer, and previous to his death owned a good farm of 320 acres well stocked. He died Sept. 29, 1845.

Mrs. Hait was married a second time, to Avery A. Gates, Jan. 11, 1848, and they lived in McHenry County, Illinois. Their children were: Franklin W., born November 20, 1848, died June 3, 1876, and Adaline, born Jan. 21, 1852. Of their children, Franklin W. was a prominent and substantial citizen of McHenry County. Adaline became a sculptress having studied in Boston and Paris, and was a lady of much ability and executed some very fine pieces of work. Her talent attracted so much attention that she had an unknown benefactor who paid her expenses in Paris for three years. She established her art very successfully in Minneapolis, Minn., where she died.

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#### WILLIAM H. GROESBECK.

William Herman Groesbeck, retired farmer, of Hebron, Ill., is a substantial citizen of Holland-Dutch descent. His grandfather, Myndert Groesbeck, was born in Albany, N. Y., June 27, 1767, became a farmer by occupation and married Margaret Van Vechten, whose family was of the same general stock, their ancestors having come from Holland and settled in New Amsterdam (now New York City) in 1667. After living on a farm twelve miles south of Albany for a number of years, he moved to Central New York, and settled near Manchester, where he bought a farm and where he died, aged about seventy years. The famous hole, where the Mormon bible was said to have been found, was on an adjoining farm. He and his wife were members of the Dutch Reformed church. The first Methodist church west of Albany, N. Y., was organized by an itinerant minister of that denomination in the Groesbeck home about 1790. Mr. and Mrs. Groesbeck had two children, Philip and John Wesley. The latter, who became the father of William H. Groesbeck, was born on his father's farm near Albany, July 1, 1802. On May 13, 1824, he married Rebecca Ann Knickerbocker, who was born in 1800, the daughter of William and Drika (Van Vechten) Knicker-





*Mr. H. Goodrich*



*Mrs. H. H. Goodrich.*





hocker, all of whom were of pure Holland-Dutch ancestry. Derick Van Vechten, the grandfather of Mrs. Groesbeck, was a Major in the War of the American Revolution, and was killed by Indians during the invasion of New York by Burgoyne in 1777, his remains being buried in the old Fort at Albany. Several chairs which belonged to Derick Van Vechten, and which were brought by his ancestors from Holland, have been preserved by different members of the family in America. These are a part of some household goods taken to Fort Albany, for preservation during the Revolutionary War. Derick Van Vechten inscribed his initials—"D. V. V."—on each chair, and these are still plainly to be seen on a chair in the possession of Mr. William H. Groesbeck. The chairs were of what was called the "fiddle-back" pattern, and the one owned by Mr. Groesbeck is yet solid and in a well-preserved condition. He also has a number of other interesting family relics, which have been handed down from his forefathers. One of these is a heavy bureau which belonged to his grandfather Groesbeck, and which was sunk in a small vessel in Milwaukee harbor for a time, but finally recovered.

John W. Groesbeck and wife first settled on a farm near Albany, belonging to one of the old patroon families, but in 1832, they removed to Manchester, N. Y., later settling in Wayne County, in that State, where he bought a farm on which he lived until 1844. During the latter year he removed to Walworth County, Wis., and settled on a farm of eighty acres immediately on the State line, one-half being in Wisconsin and the other half in McHenry County, Ill. He improved his farm and made additions to it until he was the owner of 220 acres. Here he lived until his death, which occurred May 8, 1888, at the age of eighty-six years. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian and, politically, a Jacksonian Democrat, in later life becoming a Lincoln Republican. In his younger days he was a captain in the New York State militia. His children were: Eve Eliza, Benjamin F., William Herman (now of McHenry County), Philip Henry, Margaret Ann, John Wesley and Abraham Derick. The shortest of the five brothers was six feet tall. Mr. Groesbeck held the office of Justice of the Peace for many years. A pleasant event of his later years was the sixtieth anniversary of his wedding, which was celebrated at the

home of his son William, May 13, 1884, in which a large number of descendants and old friends joined. His faithful wife died June 5, 1886.

William H. Groesbeck was born at Schaghticoke, Rensselaer County, N. Y., July 31, 1830, about twelve miles south of Albany, was only two years old when his parents removed to Manchester, and still a boy when he accompanied them to Wayne County in the same State. Here he attended school during the winter months until fourteen years of age, when he removed with his parents to Wisconsin, the journey being made by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence by the lakes to Chicago and by team to Linn Township, Walworth County, Wis. After coming to Wisconsin he attended school for several winters in a frame school house, which he assisted to build. When about twenty-one years old, he took a brief course in Beloit College, after which he taught several winter schools in Walworth County. On Dec. 27, 1860, he was married in Alden McHenry County, Ill., to Josephine L. Udell, who was born in Alden, Erie County, N. Y., Feb. 21, 1838, the daughter of Alby and Jane (Wilson) Udell. (By some branches of the family the name was spelled "Udall.") Alby Udell was a native of Woodstock, Vt., born Feb. 14, 1812, the son of Oliver and Lucretia (Grow) Udell. The founder of the family in America was Benoni Udell, who came to America in colonial times and settled in New Bedford, Mass. He had fled from England on account of some political offense not now clearly understood, but believed to have been in connection with the Cromwellian period. While on board ship, finding himself likely to be captured, he jumped into the sea and, by swimming, escaped to an island, where he took another vessel, finally reaching America as already stated. He afterwards sent to England for his wife and child, both of whom died on shipboard while crossing the ocean. Later he married his second wife in Massachusetts, Bay Colony.

Oliver Udell, the grandfather of Mrs. Groesbeck, was the third in regular descent of that name. The name Oliver, which was in common use in the American family for many generations, frequently in connection with the name "Cromwell," was adopted in honor of the great English Reformer, and this is regarded as evidence that the coming of the founder of

the family to America was due to the restoration of the Stuart dynasty to power, and the attempt to punish those connected with the dethronement and execution of Charles I. Oliver Udell was a farmer in Woodstock, Vt., where his grandfather had settled, and where he owned a farm. He married Lucretia Grow, and their children were: Sophia, Morris, Joseph, Otis, Alby, Elsie and Caroline. About 1815 he moved to New York and settled near Buffalo, making the journey overland with an ox-team. The family were in this region during the "starvation" period caused by the frosts which occurred in every month during the year 1816, destroying the crops of that year and causing great distress and, in some cases, actual starvation among the widely scattered settlements made up of pioneer families occupying little clearings in the heavily timbered portion of Western New York. The distress caused throughout the northern portions of the United States, during that memorable year, was universal, but of course most severe in the newly settled regions, many families being compelled to subsist on wild roots, herbs and nuts until the crops of the following year could be grown; and, even then, its effects were felt for a year or two following. Mr. Udell cleared up a farm in this region and finally became a prominent citizen of his county. He died in 1822 at the comparatively early age of forty-four years, from the effects of the privations he had endured during his pioneer life. He was a more than ordinarily well-educated man and served as Justice of the Peace in his community.

Alby Udell, the father of Mrs. Groesbeck, was born Feb. 14, 1812, near Woodstock, Vt., and, when three years of age, was taken by his parents to Western New York. Here, being left fatherless at ten years of age, he received a somewhat limited education, grew up to the life of a farmer and, on June 18, 1834, was married at Alden near Buffalo, to Jane Wilson, who was born in Colerain, Mass., Feb. 10, 1813, the daughter of John and Annie (Stewart) Wilson. John Wilson was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and his family were Presbyterians and among the early settlers of Massachusetts. Five years after marriage Alby Udell and wife moved to Canada and settled near Grimsby in that province, where they remained seven years, when in 1845, they came to McHenry County, Ill., and bought 300

acres of land in Alden Township, which he improved, making for himself and family a fine home. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for many years and was an attendant of the Presbyterian church, of which his wife was a member from her girlhood. Politically he was originally a Democrat, but joined in the organization of the Republican party and was one of the ardent supporters of Mr. Lincoln for the Presidency. While in New York, Mr. Udell was a member of the State militia. His children were: Oliver, Josephine, George and Asad. He died May 5, 1885, aged seventy-three years. Mrs. Alby Udell died Feb. 10, 1879, on her sixty-sixth birthday.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. William H. Groesbeck settled on a part of the paternal homestead in Alden Township, and to this he made additions until he was the owner of valuable farming lands amounting to 470 acres. This he improved, erecting on it substantial farm buildings, and by the exercise of industry and economy, aided by his faithful wife, was very successful. In 1893 they removed to Hebron, where they bought a pleasant residence in which is their present home. They have three daughters, Jennie R., Grace G. and Josephine Ida, all active members of the Presbyterian church. Grace G. married Ira E. Hyde, May 11, 1893, a business man of Hebron.

Politically Mr. Groesbeck is an earnest Republican, and, in religious views, a Presbyterian, and has been an elder and liberal giver in that church for the past twenty-five years. While a resident of Alden Township, he served for more than twenty years as Township Supervisor, and has occupied a prominent position in the community. Three brothers of William H. Groesbeck served in the Civil War, Philip, John W. and Abraham D., the first named in a Wisconsin regiment and the others in Illinois regiments. Philip served four years, was in many battles and finally died after reaching home, in consequence of exposure incurred during his army life. Abraham also died from the effects of his war service. Asad Udell, a brother of Mrs. Groesbeck, was also a soldier of the Civil War. Mr. William H. Groesbeck was nursed by an old ex-slave woman, who had been in the employ of the family from the time that slavery existed in New York State.

Mrs. Groesbeck's maternal grandfather:



John Wilson, was a contractor on the Erie Canal while it was in process of construction, and his partner ran away with the funds belonging to the firm, but Mr. Wilson, with sterling integrity and at great sacrifice, paid up all his debts, preserving his honor untarnished. A story of Mrs. Groesbeck's paternal great-grandfather, Oliver Udell, handed down to the present day, relates that, after settling in Vermont, he with his four sons cut down the timber on forty acres of land, leaving it to dry for one year, when he set fire to it. The reflection upon the sky produced by the flames from the mass of burning timber, was visible for many miles, causing much alarm among superstitious people who believed that the world was coming to an end, and they suddenly betook themselves to praying with great fervor.

In 1901, in company with her daughter Ida, Mrs. Groesbeck visited the old Canadian home of the Udells, which she found almost unchanged from the condition in which she had left it at seven years of age. The old pear tree, which she remembered seeing when a child, was still standing, stanch and strong and bearing fruit. On this visit they saw the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. Mrs. Groesbeck received a good education while young, attending a young ladies' seminary at Buffalo, N. Y., under the principalship of the famous educator, Dr. Charles E. West, and, after coming to McHenry County, engaged in teaching for a time with successful results.

#### RICHARD GILLIAN.

The subject of this sketch is the son of one of the original pioneers of McHenry County, his father, Samuel Gillian, having been the first permanent white settler in the county, where he located in 1834. The Gillian family were of Scotch-Irish descent, the founders of the American branch having emigrated to Virginia in the colonial period, finally settling in Nicholas County, now in the central part of West Virginia. The grandfather of Mr. Gillian was a farmer and hunter in the county, where his son Samuel, the father of Richard, was born, adopting his father's occupation and opening a farm in the woods of his native county. He was married to Margaret Hill, a native of the same State, born Aug. 10, 1797, and had nine children: Armstrong (who died

in Virginia), Chaney, Lydia, Gita, Nancy, Richard, Elipta, Tolitha and Martha—the latter born in Ohio. In 1833 Mr. Gillian moved with his family by wagon from West Virginia to Champaign County, Ohio, where he remained about a year, when he emigrated to Illinois, arriving in what is now Algonquin Township, McHenry County, Nov. 18, 1834. Besides his family, he was accompanied by Edward Rutledge and two old bachelors named Alonzo and Morris Cutler, who came with him from Indiana. He located a claim, built a log-cabin and established his pioneer home on a tract of land now belonging to Edward Chappel of Elgin, and occupied as a farm by a Mr. Ritt, but died in 1837 at the age of forty-four years, before perfecting his title from the Government. His wife, however, finally secured a patent to 417 acres, embracing the home farm. Later Mrs. Gillian was married to a Mr. Thomas Hooper, an Englishman, who afterwards returned to England. No children were born of the second marriage. Mrs. Gillian was the first white woman to reside permanently in McHenry County, where their daughter Gita died in 1835—this being the first death and burial of a white person in the county. Mrs. Gillian was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was highly respected, and died at the age of ninety-four years at the home of her daughter, Tolitha, in Knox County, Mo.

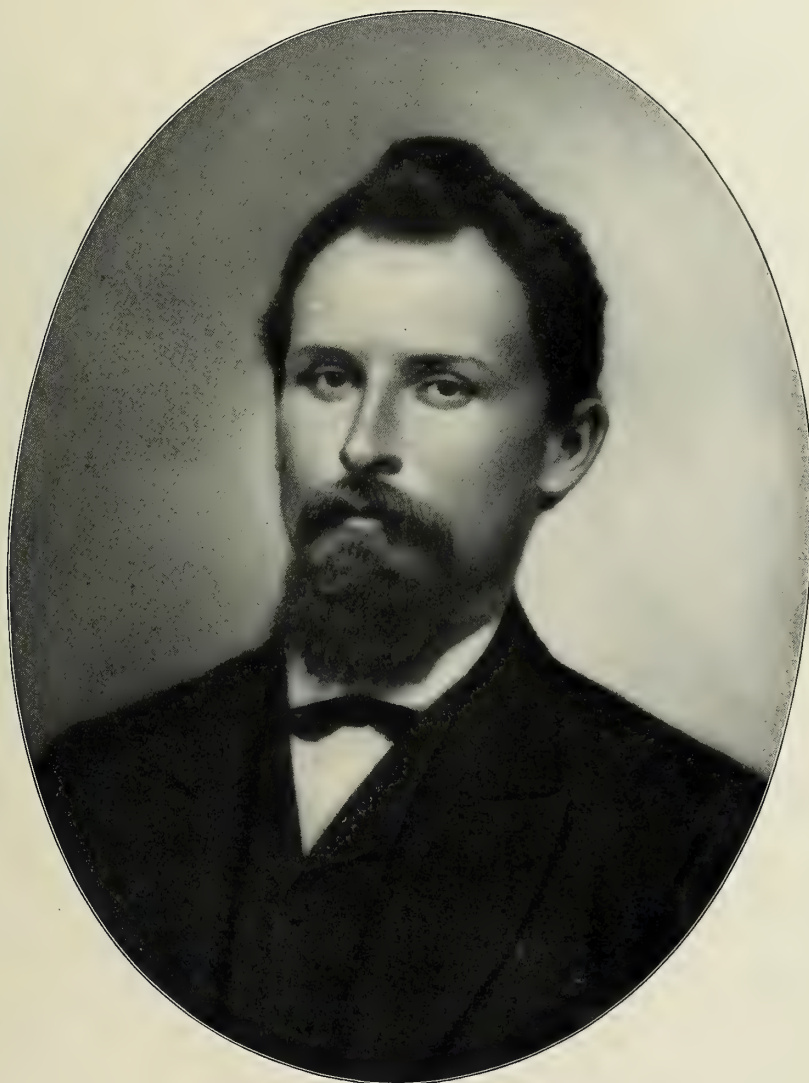
Mr. Richard Gillian was born in Nicholas County, Va. (now W. Va.), Sept. 18, 1828, and had just passed the age of six years when the family arrived in McHenry County, as detailed above. The journey from Virginia was made in two canvas-covered wagons, one drawn by a team of two horses and the other by two yoke of oxen. They also brought with them several cows. There were but few houses in Chicago when they passed through the place, and, over much of the distance traveled, there were no roads. At LaPorte, Ind., they were joined by the Cutler brothers, who located a claim in McHenry County, but afterwards sold out and went away. At that time there was no house between Chicago and the Gillian home. The landscape was a beautiful one, made up of alternate stretches of prairie and oak groves—the latter called "oak openings"—over which roamed all kinds of game then common to the country. In a single grove seventy deer were counted, and wolves and lynxes abounded along Fox River. The In-

dians had a camp at Algonquin and another across the river opposite the Gillians. Before the town of Algonquin was settled it was known as Cornish's Ferry; then, when the town was started, it took the name of Osceola, but was finally named Algonquin by Mr. Samuel Edwards, after a boat which he owned and which had been named for the Algonquin tribe of Indians. The first school was taught in a log-cabin by Mrs. Elizabeth Cole, the wife of James Cole, and this Mr. Gillian attended one winter. He afterwards attended a school taught by William Burnham, in a log-house erected for that purpose; near where the town of Cary now stands. Later, Burnham Cole taught in a frame house belonging to Jesse Miller, and William Hodges where the Lowe School now is. The first religious meetings attended by the family were held at the house of Isaac Denny, across the river from the Gillians, conducted by pioneer Methodist itinerants. Among those remembered were a Rev. Mr. White and Mr. Gaddis. Services were also held sometimes in the Gillian home, and the good old Methodist hymns were sung with deep feeling by preachers and pioneers, among whom the former were laboring with great zeal to establish the principles of their faith. The country was full of game, the streams swarmed with fish, there was abundance of mast for the hogs which ran wild in the woods, and large crops were raised with little effort on the fertile and newly broken soil. The pioneers worked hard, but found much comfort in their mode of life; the "latch string" was always "out" and hospitality was generous. The Indians, who always proved themselves peaceful and friendly, often came to the house for food, and were seldom, if ever, turned away empty. Richard learned the art of farming in his boyhood, and, as his father died while he was quite young, and his only brother (Chaney) at the age of fifteen, a large share of the responsibility for carrying on the farm and supporting the family soon fell upon his shoulders, and well did he acquit himself. Mr. Gillian is a member of Algonquin Lodge A. F. & A. M., and has established a reputation for straightforward integrity, generosity, public-spirit and kind-hearted liberality to the poor, that is gratefully remembered in the community.

#### HENRY GORHAM.

Henry Gorham (deceased), of Ridgefield, McHenry County, Ill., was, during his life, one of the substantial and respected citizens of Dorr Township, McHenry County, and the head of an excellent family. The Gorham family is of English extraction, the father of the subject of this sketch having been born, as believed, in Quebec, Canada. He was married there to a lady of French descent, who was the owner of a farm, but they finally settled at San Barnato, some thirty miles from Montreal, where he lived to the age of about one hundred and seven years. He was a man in comfortable circumstances, the owner of a good homestead, a church member, and a soldier in the War of 1812 on the British side, as was to be expected from him as a citizen of a British province. His children were: David, Eli, Frank, Robert, Julia, Peter, Mary, Henry and a daughter who died aged seventeen years. All of the sons except Frank became citizens of the United States. David, the oldest, located in Dundee, McHenry County, Ill., and served as a soldier of the Civil War in the Fifty-second Regiment Illinois Volunteers. Eli settled at Utica, and also served in the Civil War.

Henry Gorham, whose name heads this article, and the youngest son of this family, was born at St. Isaacs, on the St. Lawrence River, within thirty miles of Montreal, in the latter part of December, 1855. While young he received a limited education, but learned to read the French language. At fourteen years of age, he went to Vermont and engaged in farm-work near Fairfield in that State, where he remained until 1855, when he came with his brother David and a cousin, George La Chance, to Illinois, making the journey to Chicago by railroad and thence to Gilbert Station, Kane County, where he again took up farm-work as an employe of George Sawyer of Dundee, in the meantime attending school three winters. In the spring of 1859 he joined a party for a trip across the plains. Besides himself, the party included Jules and Jacob Horbach and William and Gardner Southworth—the latter, for many years at a later period, editor of the "Woodstock Sentinel." Their outfit consisted of two yoke of oxen, a cow and a canvas-covered ox-wagon with supplies purchased at Nebraska City. They first contemplated going to Pike's Peak to engage in the



*Henry Gosham*





search for gold, but meeting many adventurers returning from that region, they decided to extend their journey to California. Leaving Cary Station, in McHenry County, on March 9, 1859, they reached the Eureka mines in Sierra County, Cal., Aug. 20th following, after a journey of nearly five and a half months. Mr. Gorham walked the whole distance, averaging twenty-five to thirty miles per day, and meeting plenty of Indians, buffalo and antelope on the way. After working in the Eureka gold mines and a quartz-mill two months, he went to Tulare County in company with two others—a Mr. John Coon and William Wilson—packing their food supply a distance of 200 miles on a burro. Finding no satisfactory prospect for profitable mining here, he returned to Turnback Creek, remaining in that vicinity four or five years and obtaining fairly good returns for his labor. In April, 1867, he started from San Francisco on his return, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, to his old home at Dundee, where, on Dec. 26th of the same year, he was married to Judith Helen Sawyer. After marriage they settled on the old Sawyer homestead in Dorr Township, McHenry County. Here they have made their home, except during the absence of Mr. Gorham in Cowley County, Kan., where he went in 1871 and homesteaded 160 acres of land, spending a part of his time in freighting to Emporia, Humboldt and other places. After an absence of fourteen months, he sold his Kansas land and returned to his Illinois home.

Mr. and Mrs. Gorham were the parents of the following named children: Bertha, Elmer S., William Henry and George F.—all well educated. Bertha, Elmer and George attended the Woodstock High School, and Elmer took a course in a business college at Elgin. Bertha married Richard Reed, a farmer living near Ridgefield, and they have had two children, Pearl Marie and Clarence Edward.

In political belief Mr. Gorham was a Republican. He was of industrious, frugal habits, and invested his savings in the Sawyer homestead, which was heavily encumbered, finally paying off the indebtedness. He was a strictly honest and self-made man, and accumulated his property by his own individual efforts, aided by those of his faithful wife. He built a substantial frame residence on the homestead and, at his death, was the owner of two farms—the home farm consisting of 183

acres, and another of 158 acres one mile from the Dorr butter and cheese factory. Beginning life at fourteen years of age with nothing, he accumulated a handsome competency.

His wife, Judith Helen Sawyer, was born in Bradford, Vt., Jan. 9, 1842, the daughter of William and Savilla (Hayes) Sawyer, who were of English-Puritan ancestry. Her mother was a native of Strafford, Vt., born Jan. 3, 1811, the daughter of Robert and Abigail (Merrill) Hayes—the former a soldier of the American Revolution. Their children were: David, John, Samuel, Sallie, Irene, Lydia, Roxana, Elvira, Lucy (who died young) and Savilla. The Hayes family were of the same stock as the late Ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes.

William Sawyer, the father of Mrs. Gorham, was born at Oxford, N. H., in November, 1807, the son of John and Judith (Webster) Sawyer, the ancestors of the former being among the early settlers of New Hampshire. He was of the same stock as the late Senator Sawyer of Wisconsin. Judith Webster was a second cousin of Daniel Webster. John was killed at an early day in Canada. His son William was well educated for his day, an earnest student of history, adopted the life of a farmer and in 1839 was married to Savilla Hayes. For a time he was engaged in transporting produce by way of the Connecticut River to Boston, using, for the river part of the route, flat-boats made by himself. After marriage he bought a farm near Bradford, Vt., which he improved and where he lived until 1840, when he removed to the village of Bradford. In August, 1851, he came to McHenry County, Ill., settled on a tract of eighty acres which had no improvements, except a small log-house without doors, windows or floors, and a few acres of broken land. This he improved, increasing his holding to 188 acres, and erecting on it a frame house and a fine barn—the former in 1853 and the latter in 1871. In 1891 the house was destroyed by fire. He managed this farm for many years until enfeebled by age, dying aged eighty-one years. His widow survived many years, dying on her birthday, Jan. 3, 1902, aged ninety-one years. She was a Methodist in religious belief, a woman of sterling virtues and retained her faculties to the last. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer were the parents of the following named children: Judith Helen, who became Mrs. Gorham, and George,

who was a soldier of the Civil War, serving as a private in Company, F, Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The latter enlisted at the age of eighteen for three years or during the war, but a few months later died of pneumonia at Lake Providence, La.

#### LIEUT. THOMAS GILKERSON.

Lieut. Thomas Gilkerson, Marengo, Ill., early settler and soldier of the Civil War, is of English ancestry, having been born in England, the son of John Gilkerson. His father was born about 1780, grew up to be a farmer, but, for some time, was engaged in business as a cattle-trader and inn-keeper. He married Mary Twentiman in Cumberland County, England, and lived for a time at Warwick Bridge. During the Napoleonic war he was a member of the "Yeoman Cavalry," and was also engaged some time in the cattle trade, in which he was finally a heavy loser in consequence of the "slump" in prices at the close of the war. Then having removed to Bemont, Cumberland County, he lived on rented land and conducted farming operations successfully for some years, still later living for nine years at Orton Hall in the same county. Other places in which he lived included Carlisle and New Town, in the borough of Carlisle, where he was engaged in business as an inn-keeper, and later at Trywood and Bellevue, where he followed farming. The following named children were born to him and his wife during his stay in England: George, John, Eleanor, Thomas, James and Margaret. In 1840 he emigrated to America, bringing with him his wife and four younger children, the other two, George and John, coming the following year. In coming to America the family embarked on a steamer at Annon Water-Foot, Cumberland County, for Liverpool, where, on April 1, 1840, they took passage on a sailing vessel for New York, where they arrived after a voyage of twenty-five days. Two days later they took steamer—the old "Swallow"—up the Hudson, thence by the Erie Canal and by teams to Truxton, Cortland County, N. Y., where the following spring he settled on a rented farm. Other places at which he lived in Cortland County included East Homer and a point between Homer and Cortland. His wife having died at the latter place, he afterwards lived with his son James, who

was a blacksmith and cattle-dealer in Homer, and here the father died in the fall of 1862. He and his wife were members of the Church of England and, in his early days, he was a prosperous citizen. Of the children of John Gilkerson and wife, George married in England, Sarah Reason, settled in Homer, N. Y., and was a farmer; both are deceased, leaving five children; John married in America Frances Williams, was a farmer owning a farm in DeKalb County, Ill.; he and wife are deceased, leaving three children: Eleanor married Joseph Jackson, a farmer of Summit, Wis., and had two children; Mr. Jackson is deceased but his wife is still living; James married Abbie Pretchard, was a blacksmith and cattle-dealer at Homer, N. Y.; had one son, Arthur; is deceased but his wife is still living: Margaret died at Marengo, Ill., in 1900, unmarried.

Thomas Gilkerson, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born at Bemont, Cumberland County, England, April 23, 1822, received a common English education, learned the farming business and, coming with his parents to America in 1840, afterwards lived at Truxton and at Homer, N. Y. In 1843 he came to Chicago by way of the lakes, and soon after bought 120 acres of Government land in Hampshire Township, Kane County, Ill., built thereon a small log-house and, returning to his home in New York, remained there five years, in the meantime being employed in a sash factory at Seneca Falls. On October 1, 1851, he was married, at Seneca Falls, by Rev. Elisha Wood, a Methodist minister, to Jane Maria Van Alstyn, and, in May following, came to Kane County, Ill., locating on his land in Hampshire Township in the log-cabin which he had built seven years before. This had been neatly constructed with white-ash board floor, shingle roof and glass windows. Here he and his wife remained thirteen years, worked hard in developing his farm and improved his cabin, covering the walls with siding and making an addition to it, in the meantime enjoying the comforts and pleasures of pioneer life. When Mr. Gilkerson came to his Western home, his nearest neighbor was two miles distant, wild game was plentiful and home-grown food abundant. This condition of rural comfort was broken in upon by the Civil War, and Mr. Gilkerson, not to be outdone in patriotism by others, on August 13, 1862, enlisted for three years and, a few weeks later,





Mrs Henry Forham



was mustered in, at Rockford, as Orderly Sergeant in Company E, Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers. Later he was promoted for meritorious service to the rank of Second Lieutenant and finally to First Lieutenant, serving until Dec. 12, 1864, when he was honorably discharged at Nashville, Tenn., by Gen. George H. Thomas, on account of disabilities incurred in the line of duty. Among the sieges, battles, etc., in which he took part were the siege of Vicksburg; was first to leap from the steamer on taking possession of Natchez; the Red River campaign; the battle of Guntown, Miss., (June 10, 1864), when his regiment lost half its officers and one-third of its men in killed and wounded; the White River expedition, besides many minor battles and skirmishes. During the unfortunate Guntown affair, he was detailed to take command of the rear guard of the regiment, but later went to the front taking command of his company and engaging in the thickest of the fight. He also performed important service in the White River expedition, there being detailed to take charge of the convalescent camp and camp and garrison equipage. Returning to Memphis, he was continued in charge of the camp, being entrusted with the drilling of a large number of recruits whom he took to Nashville to be assigned to their respective regiments. Early in 1863 he was in hospital at Lake Providence, La., for three weeks on account of sickness; spent a like period in hospital at Alexandria, La., during the Red River expedition, and was, for a short time, on a hospital boat. Except when in hospital or on detached service, he took an active part in the numerous campaigns, marches, battles and skirmishes in which his company was engaged.

Returning home broken in health after his discharge from the army in December, 1864, he was unable for a year to engage in any regular employment, in the meantime, however, he was appointed guardian for the children of his deceased brother John. In April, 1865, he removed to Marengo, where he was engaged for some years in the grain and lumber business with McKenney & Ingersoll. In 1870 he bought his present homestead, consisting of twenty-five acres, besides a wood-lot of six acres. This he has improved, building upon it a substantial and tasteful frame residence, and for thirty years has here conducted a nursery business.

Mr. Gilkerson has always been an important factor in the Methodist church, with which he united at Seneca Falls, N. Y., in 1848, his wife becoming a member in 1847. After coming to Illinois, they took a prominent part in church organization in their section of the State. Mr. Gilkerson organized Sunday Schools at an early day in Hampshire and Pigeon Woods, utilizing local school houses for the purpose. As the result of interest awakened at Pigeon Woods, during the winter of 1854, there were eighteen conversions. Six months after uniting with the church he became a class-leader, and has since frequently served in this position; on May 22, 1858, he was licensed as a local preacher, often officiating in that capacity and, even at the present day, is occasionally called upon to fill some local pulpit. Mr. and Mrs. Gilkerson assisted in the erection of the early Methodist church at Harmony, and later, the present Methodist church at Marengo.

Fraternally Mr. Gilkerson is a Royal Arch-Mason, and, in his political relations, a stanch Republican, having been a supporter of Abraham Lincoln in the early days of that party. He has served as School Director and Trustee for Coral Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilkerson are the parents of one son, Charles Thomas Gilkerson. In her infancy they adopted Ella Coles, the daughter of Dexter Coles, a comrade of Mr. Gilkerson in the Civil War, giving to her the same care and education they would have given their own child. She is now the wife of Chauncey A. Dunham.

Mrs. Gilkerson, nee Jane M. Van Alstyn, was born at Junius, Seneca County, N. Y., June 8, 1828, the daughter of Thomas and Sherezeda (Roosevelt) Van Alstyn, and died at her home, May 18, 1903. Her parents on both sides were descended from Holland-Dutch stock identified with early New York history. Thomas Van Alstyn was the son of Lambert and Elizabeth (Lee) Van Alstyn—Lambert Van Alstyn being a hotel-keeper at Waterloo, Seneca County, N. Y. His children were: Thomas, Maria, Harriet and George. Of these, Thomas, born at Seneca Falls, N. Y., July 18, 1794, was a carpenter and farmer, who married at Junius, N. Y., Sherezeda Roosevelt, born Oct. 29, 1804, the daughter of Thomas Wilton and Betsey (Cook) Roosevelt. Thomas Van Alstyn was a ship-carpenter, and was killed at the launch-



ing of a canal boat at Seneca Falls, N. Y., June 10, 1847. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Van Alstyn were: Jane M. (Mrs. Gilkerson). Egbert, Elizabeth, Phillips, Helen, Raikes and George W. (twins), Cornelius R., Thomas W. and Albert S. Mrs. Van Alstyn lived to the advanced age of ninety-three years, dying April 25, 1898, at the home of her daughter Mrs. Gilkerson, where she spent the last seven years of her life. Three of her sons—George, Cornelius and Thomas—served as soldiers of the Civil War. The Roosevelts were of Holland-Dutch ancestry, who came to New Amsterdam—now New York City—at an early day, being of the same general stock as that from which President Roosevelt is descended.

Among the early colonists from Holland were Claes Martensbergen Van Roosevelt, and his wife, Jannetze, who came from Holland to New Amsterdam about 1649-50. Their son Nicholas was baptized in the Dutch church in New York, Oct. 2, 1658. From the old church records it appears that Samuel and Thomas Roosevelt, on Dec. 4, 1674, were admitted to the Dutch Reformed church in New York, which their decendants attended for 250 years. Nicholas Roosevelt was married Dec. 9, 1682, to Heytje, daughter of Jan Kunst, and in 1680 they moved to Esopus (now Kingston), N. Y., but returning to New York in 1690, he served as alderman there in 1698, 1701 and 1705. This Nicholas had a son Nicholas, who was baptized at Kingston, August 28, 1687; another Nicholas was born Feb. 6, 1715. Johannes (John), son of Nicholas, was born at Kingston, Feb. 27, 1679; Oliver, son of Johannes, Feb. 8, 1716; Cornelius, son of Oliver, March 24, 1749. Cornelius married a Miss Wilton, and his son, Thomas Wilton Roosevelt, born in New York City, April 26, 1781, and educated there, became a civil engineer and surveyor, and went to Junius, N. Y., where he took up a tract of land and farmed for a time, finally moving to Welles; married Betsy Cook, who was born Sept. 30, 1785; was appointed Lieutenant of an infantry company by Gov. Tompkins, Feb. 4, 1812, was shot during the siege of Fort Erie, Sept. 5, 1814, and buried in the old cemetery at Buffalo. The following letter, addressed to his wife, Mrs. Betsy Roosevelt, Seneca, N. Y., informed her of his fate:

"Mrs. Betsey Roosevelt, Madam:—I am sorry to inform you of the death of your hus-

band and our officer, which we all very much lament. On the 5th of September, 1814, our picket guard was attacked by a considerable force of British and Indians, and we volunteers were immediately ordered out by Col. Wilcox, who then took command, and, after a smart skirmish of half an hour, Lieut. Roosevelt was shot through the right breast and expired in a few minutes after I brought him into the fort, and, on the 6th inst., he was taken over the river to Buffalo and buried in a decent and officer-like manner. Col. Wilcox fell in the same action and was carried in and took across to Buffalo and buried in the same manner.

"I shall endeavor to take care of his effects here and see that they are safely conveyed home to you. I am,

Yours with respect,

GEORGE ALFRED.

"Fort Erie, Sept. 6, 1814."

"P. S. We consider ourselves perfectly safe, as we are receiving reinforcements every hour."

Cornelius Roosevelt, the father of Thomas Wilton Roosevelt, was the great-grandfather of Mrs. Gilkerson, and his father, Oliver Roosevelt, was the ancestor of both the Van Alstyn and President Roosevelt branches of the family.

Charles Thomas Gilkerson, the son of Lieut. Thomas Gilkerson, was born in Hampshire, Kane County, Ill., June 12, 1864, received a superior education in the Marengo High School and attended the Northwestern University for a time, but was prevented from graduating by bad health. After leaving the University he engaged in the mercantile business with E. B. Van Alstyn. On June 24, 1885, he was married in Dunham Township, McHenry County, to Libbie Pauline White, who was born in Dunham Township, Sept. 30, 1866, the daughter of Nathaniel and Phoebe E. (Face) White. Nathaniel White was born in County Cork, Ireland, June 4, 1826, and in 1831 was brought by his parents to America, where he became a farmer. He married Elizabeth Cunningham, and they had two children: Royal George and John. His wife having died, he married at Gloversville, N. Y., Phoebe E. Face, who was born in that State, the daughter of John and Emeline (Williams) Face, who were of Holland-Dutch ancestry. Mr. White was an early settler of Dunham Township, McHenry County, where he improved a farm. In October, 1864, he enlisted as a recruit in Company E, Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers, being the same company of which Thomas Gilkerson was

Lieutenant. He joined the company at Memphis, Tenn., at the time Mr. Gilkerson was drilling the recruits; later participated in the battle of Nashville, and the campaign against Mobile, including the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. He was mustered out with his regiment at Springfield, Ill., Aug. 16, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. White were the parents of one child—Libbie Pauline White—who became Mrs. Charles Thomas Gilkerson. Her mother, Mrs. White, who was a member of the Methodist church and a woman of high character, died Feb. 15, 1886.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Gilkerson settled on the old homestead, where they remained five years, when they moved to Chicago. Mr. Gilkerson was then employed as a mail-carrier, remaining nearly four years, when they returned to Marengo and Mr. Gilkerson has since managed the home farm. Their children are: Bessie Phebe, born in Marengo, June 7, 1886; Harry Charles, born Oct. 30, 1887; Earl Jean, born in Chicago, Aug. 23, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Gilkerson and their children are members of the Methodist church. In politics he is a Republican and is now serving as School Trustee of Coral Township.

#### GEORGE J. GRIFFITHS.

George James Griffiths, foreman of what is known as the "assembling department" of the Oliver Typewriter Works, Woodstock, Ill., was born in London, England, in 1864, the son of James and Charlotte (Dunn) Griffiths. His father, James Griffiths, a native of Birmingham, England, was an expert gunsmith, who came to America with his family in 1868, sailing from Liverpool to Quebec. The son being at that time only four years old, received his primary education chiefly at Guelph, Ontario, where his father settled on coming to America. When he was twelve years of age, the family returned to England, and, having completed his education there, between fourteen and fifteen years of age, he began learning the machinist's trade at the Royal Small Arms Gun Factory, at Enfield, England, an establishment conducted under the direction of the British government. Here he learned the rudiments of the machinist's trade with thoroughness, according to the custom in England, remaining in this establishment three years.

The factory being managed through the agency of the government, insured for him the most thorough and systematic training on purely practical lines. When about nineteen years of age he returned to America, making his fifth trip across the Atlantic before reaching his majority, having meanwhile spent some time with the Witten Arms Company in Germany, one of the most famous arms manufacturing concerns in the world. He also spent some time with the Marlin Arms Company at New Haven, Conn., with the Ames Manufacturing Company of Chicopee, Mass., and ten years with the National Sewing Machine Company at Belvidere, Ill. In 1896 Mr. Griffiths came to Woodstock, Ill., and soon afterwards assumed the foremanship of the department of the Oliver Typewriter Company, already referred to, and under his management this important department has advanced to a high standard of excellence. While it is true this beautiful machine is the product of many minds, it owes much, for the perfection which has been attained, to the ingenuity and skill of Mr. Griffiths in the introduction of practical improvements. The Oliver Typewriter Company has been fortunate in securing the services of so competent a foreman, as he brought to it the thorough and efficient training of the English machinists, who are universally recognized as among the most skillful in the profession. During his connection with the company for the past seven years, he has proved himself most invaluable in his department, and, by his honest and efficient administration, has won the good will of both employers and employed. Mr. Griffiths resides with his family in Woodstock, and, by his strong personality and bluff English heartiness, has gained a deserved and wide popularity among his fellow citizens.

Mr. Griffiths was married May 4, 1892, to Mary Niobe Cronk, daughter of Joel Enoch and Lottie (Boomer) Cronk, and they have three daughters: Niobe Charlotte, born Aug. 28, 1894; Gladys Araminta, born Aug. 12, 1895, and Mary Rubina, born Nov. 29, 1899.

Joel E. Cronk, the father of Mrs. Griffiths, is the son of Enoch, and Mary (Denny) Cronk. Three brothers of the Cronk family—Casper, James and Jacob—came from Holland sometime before the American Revolution. Of



these Casper returned to his native country, but the others, remaining in America, took part in the war. They lived in Dutchess County, N. Y., where they were farmers and where their descendants lived for generations. James Cronk, the son of Jacob—and also a soldier of the Revolution—had a son named Samuel, who married and had children named Enoch, Asahel, Abraham and perhaps others. Enoch Cronk of this family, born in Dutchess County, was the father of Joel E., and grandfather of Mrs. Griffiths. He was a farmer by occupation, and at an early day came to Bonus Prairie, north of Belvidere, Boone County, where he entered eighty acres of Government land, to which he made additions by purchase, until, at the time of his death, he was the owner of 240 acres. His children were Abbie, Jane, Richard and Joel E., the father of Mrs. Griffiths. Abbie J. married Loren Bills and settled in Siskiyou County, Cal.; Richard married Laura Denny and died in Waverly, Iowa. Joel E., born at Tower Hill, Dutchess County, N. Y., Sept. 17, 1829, received a common-school education, and, at seventeen years of age, came west. In boyhood he was a farmer. In 1849 he crossed the plains to California, taking beef cattle with him, the trip occupying six months. He engaged in merchandising for a time, and later was engaged in the fruit trade, shipping apples and other fruits from Oregon. Returning to the States in 1855, he again drove a lot of beef cattle across the plains to California. In all he made three trips to California, crossing the plains three times. His last trip was made by water, returning the same way, in all spending in the Pacific Coast State fifteen years. Returning to Illinois in 1866, he located in Bonus Prairie, Boone County, where he became the owner of 560 acres of land and remained fifteen years, when he removed to Belvidere and has lived there ever since. He has seventeen acres of land there, besides a like amount in lots (mostly sold), also owns a farm. Mr. Cronk married May 19, 1866, Mary Boomer, daughter of Allen and Niobe (Franklin) Boomer. Mrs. Boomer is a relative of the family of Dr. Benjamin Franklin, and is still living at the age of ninety-three years. Allen Boomer was born in Ellisburg, N. Y., in 1798, the son of Benjamin and Esther Boomer. The Boomers came from

Wales and settled on Gardner Island in Long Island Sound, ten miles from the main land, in order that they might enjoy the privilege of worshipping God according to the dictates of their own conscience.

Mr. and Mrs. Cronk have had ten children, of whom nine are still living—Florence I., Joel D'Aubigne, Wakeman H., Mary Niobe, Enoch Costello (deceased, August 23, 1894, aged twenty-one), Lottie E., Araminta G., Benjamin F., Louis Agassiz and Rubina Y.—all except Rubina Y. born on the home farm in Bonus Prairie, Boone County, Ill.

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#### HENRY M. GEROULD.

Henry M. Gerould is one of the early settlers of Greenwood Township and descends from French Huguenot ancestry. The founder of the family in America was Jacques (or James) Gerould, as the name was originally spelled, of the Province of Languedoc, France. According to tradition the family were Huguenots and successful silk manufacturers. Immediately following the revocation of the edict of Nantes (which occurred in 1685, when five hundred thousand Protestants left their homes for England, Nova Scotia, Massachusetts, South Carolina and other localities), Jacques Gerould came to America. The date of his birth and arrival here are unknown, but well authenticated accounts state that he was about twenty years of age when he emigrated, and that he was one of a family of twenty-one children. His first place of settlement is believed by some members of the family to have been Boston, but it is positively known that he and his family were early settlers of Medfield, Mass., as his name appears on the early records of that community as being a physician. During his voyage to America, he became associated with a Huguenot family to whom a daughter, Martha Dupries or Dupee, was born, and whom, when she had arrived at a suitable age, he married. It is supposed that this was when he was about thirty-six or thirty-eight years of age, and she was about sixteen. He practiced medicine in Medfield until the time of his death, Oct. 25, 1760. His wife died March 25, 1763. The home that he built, and where he last lived, is still standing and in a



a good state of preservation. A grandson, bearing the same name, studied medicine with him, succeeded to his practice and lived at the old homestead. There were, in 1885, some persons yet living who remembered the latter and having been treated by him. The will of the founder, James Gerauld, dated Sept. 15, 1759, shows him to have been possessed of considerable property. It also indicates that he was a slave-holder, as, after disposing of his real-estate and movable effects, he proceeds to enumerate his bequests to his wife, adding, "and also all my negroes to be at her disposal forever; only I will that my Negro Caesar be not sold or disposed of out of my family, that is to say, to be sold to any excepting to some of my children and their children during life." His children, all born at Medfield, excepting two whose birthplace is unknown, were named as follows: James; Martha, died in Medfield, Mass. Sept. 23, 1733; Gamaliel, born Sept. 23, 1719; Stephen, born Nov. 29, 1720, and settled at Sturbridge, Mass., where he died Jan. 22, 1785; Dupee, born March 5, 1723, became a physician and settled at East Greenwich, R. I.; Mary, born July 8, 1725, married Jacob Spaulding, May 2, 1758, and lived first in Medfield and then in Providence, R. I., where she died; Joanna, born Nov. 2, 1728; Susanna, born Nov. 6, 1730, died Sept. 16, 1770.

**Second Generation.**—Gamaliel, son of James Gerauld, married Rebecca Lawrence for his first wife Dec. 25, 1741. She died Jan. 12, 1751, and he married as his second wife, Oct. 11, 1751, Jerusha Mann, who was born Nov. 12, 1724, and died Nov. 6, 1762. His third marriage was celebrated August 10, 1763, with Mary Everett of Dedham, Mass., who died Oct. 18, 1795. For some unknown reason he changed the spelling of the family name from the original, as did his brother Stephen, and their descendants have followed their example. The other branches of the family have retained the original spelling. The children by Gamaliel Gerauld's first marriage were: Gamaliel, born Dec. 25, 1742, died Jan. 12, 1750; Rebecca, born April 28, 1744, died May 22, 1744; Katie, born May 30, 1745, died March 14, 1749; Rebecca, born Feb. 9, 1747, died July 5, 1747; Jabez, born Nov. 1, 1748. The children by the second marriage were: Ebenezer, born July 13, 1752,

died July 25, 1752; Elias, born Sept. 22, 1753, died Oct. 16, 1753; Samuel, born July 28, 1755, Benona, born Nov. 19, 1756, died Nov. 24, 1756; Jacob, born Dec. 12, 1759, died Nov. 3, 1837; Jerusha, born July 20, 1760; Theodore, born Sept. 11, 1761.

**Third Generation.**—Jabez, son of Gamaliel and Rebecca (Lawrence) Gerould, married Damaris Bennett, of Newton, Conn., who died March 20, 1829. He served in the Revolutionary War, first as an enlisted soldier at Bunker Hill, where he was wounded, which caused his discharge, and subsequently he was commissioned a captain and had charge of the ordnance of his division. After retiring from the army he settled in Newton, Conn., and engaged in blacksmithing. In 1798 he emigrated to Franklin County, N. Y., and in 1801, removed to East Smithfield, Penn., where he resided until his death, June 12, 1802. Mrs. Gerould was a devoted and pious woman. At the time of their settlement in Pennsylvania, there were neither churches nor school houses in which to hold religious services, but their house was always open for this purpose. Prayer meetings were held there at frequent intervals, and a result of these meetings was the building of the first Congregational church in that village. Mr. and Mrs. Jabez Gerould were the parents of Jerusha, born March 15, 1783, died young; James, born May 5, 1784; Susanna, born Jan. 1, 1786; Ephraim Bennett, born Jan. 14, 1788; George, born Nov. 25, 1789; Ziba, born Jan. 11, 1792; Jabez Lawrence, born Dec. 13, 1795; Abel Judson, born April 8, 1799; Theodore, born May 11, 1801.

**Fourth Generation.**—Ziba, son of Jabez and Rebecca (Lawrence) Gerould, married Eliza A. Bird, Nov. 25, 1816, and their children were Sophia, born Nov. 16, 1817; Louisa, born July 24, 1820; Betsy, born Aug. 21, 1822, married Jesse Bullock Oct. 29, 1851; Lewis B., born March 31 1824; Phebe, born March 14, 1829; Henry M., born April 26, 1831; Clayton, born Oct. 28, 1835; Jane Eliza (wife of Dexter Phelps), born Oct. 15, 1841, died July 21, 1873. Ziba Gerould was a farmer at East Smithfield, Penn., where he owned a farm of 100 acres and where he died Feb. 7, 1871. He was a member of the Disciples Church.

**Fifth Generation.**—Henry M. Gerould, principal subject of this article and the fifth lineal

## McHENRY COUNTY.

descendant of Jacques or James Gerould, was born in East Smithfield, Penn., son of Ziba and Eliza A. (Bird) Gerould. He received a common-school education and was reared a farmer, attending school during the winter and working on the farm in the summer season. When about twenty years of age he began working for himself at lumbering in the pine forests of Bradford County, Penn., where he continued for three years, carefully saving his money. In that county on Jan. 21, 1855, he married Caroline Ayer Blackman, born in Madison County, N. Y., daughter of Parley and Eunice (Smith) Blackman. The same year of their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Gerould came to McHenry County, Ill., where he bought eighty acres of his present farm, which was then but slightly improved. By industrious habits and careful management Mr. Gerould, with the aid of his faithful wife, has not only brought his farm to a high state of cultivation, but has added to its area until he now owns 200 acres of excellent farming land, well improved with modern buildings. Mr. Gerould lived in McHenry a number of years, and later in Elgin, being absent from his farm, in all, thirteen years, but after the death of his wife, returned to the farm where he has since resided. Politically Mr. Gerould is a Democrat. He is a self-made man in the fullest sense of the term and has accumulated a handsome estate. Mr. and Mrs. Gerould have but one child, a daughter, Maude E., who was born Oct. 13, 1855. She married Jan. 27, 1875, John Wilson, a merchant and land-broker in Redfield, Dakota, and their children are Henry G., born Dec. 23, 1875; Raymond L., born Jan. 11, 1878, and Lewis Dale, born August 1, 1884. Mrs. Gerould was an estimable lady and greatly beloved by all her friends. She died in 1893.

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 JOHN H. GRACY.

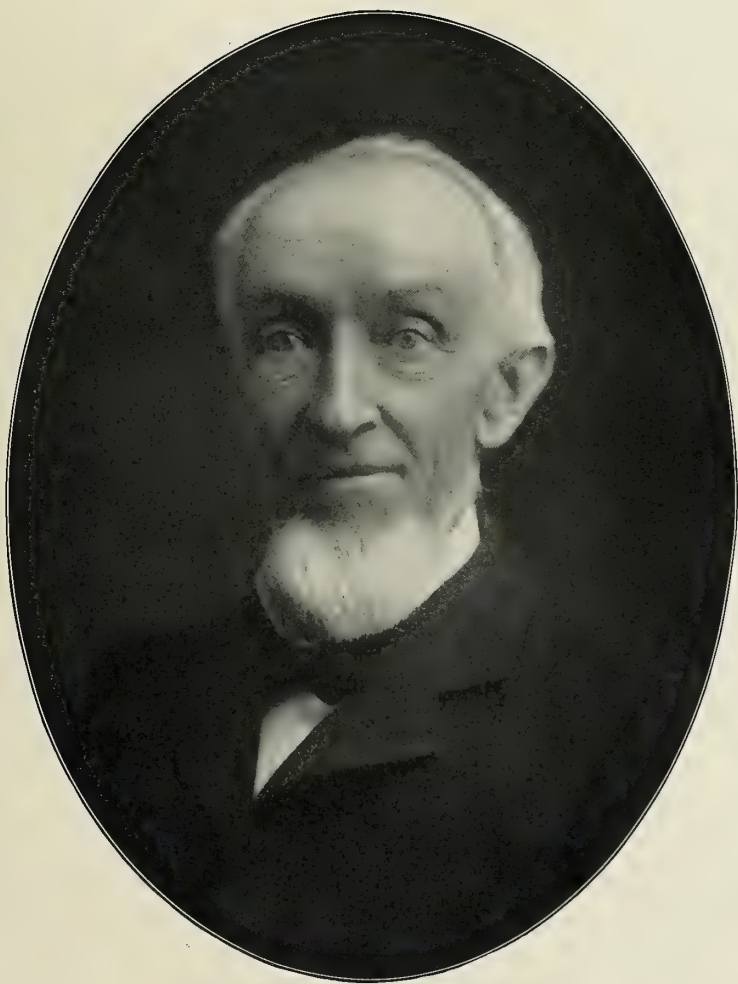
John Hammond Gracy, farmer, Terra Cotta, Nunda Township, McHenry County, Ill., was born on his father's farm in the neighborhood where he now resides, Oct. 16, 1852, the son of James and Permelia (Broughton) Gracy, a pioneer family of McHenry County. The Gracy branch of the family are of Scotch-Irish extraction, and in religious belief were Scotch Presbyterians. The name may originally have

been spelled "Gracey." Mr. Gracy has in his possession a copy of the Presbyterian "Confession of Faith" printed in 1764, in which the name of the original owner is written "Gracey."

James Gracy, the father of John H., was born May 8, 1812, near Lisbon, North of Ireland, the son of Robert and Elizabeth (Groves) Gracy.

Robert Gracy, who was the son of a farmer in Ireland, married in his native country and, about the year 1821, came to America with his family, settling at Crown Point, Essex County, N. Y. Here he was employed in farming and milling and he and his wife were parents of the following children: James, Jane, Lucia, Margaret, Robert, Jr. and a son whose name is not remembered. Robert Gracy died in Essex County, N. Y., May 8, 1862.

James Gracy came from his native country to America with his father when about nine years of age, and received a common-school education in Essex County, N. Y. He was, for a time, a sailor on Lake Champlain, was employed on the Erie Canal and later sailed the Great Lakes for several years, some of the time a first-mate of the vessel on which he sailed. In 1842 he was united in marriage, in Essex County, N. Y., to Permelia Broughton, who was born in the Town of Wells, Rutland County, Vt., Sept. 25, 1810, the daughter of John and Elizabeth (McGraw) Broughton. Mrs. Gracy's father, John Broughton, was of an old New England family, while the McGraws were of Scotch ancestry. After marriage James Gracy remained for a time in Essex County, N. Y., and in 1844, came to McHenry County, Ill., where he purchased a tract of 380 acres of unimproved land in Nunda Township. Here he built a small house for his family, but continued to follow the lakes during the summer season for several years. Of his original land purchase he retained 320 acres at the time of his death. He improved his land and later bought two other farms in the same neighborhood—one of 117 acres and another of 105 acres. He was well known in the community for his industry and uprightness of character. He and his wife had one daughter, Ellen E., and one son, John H., the subject of this sketch. Ellen E. was born in Essex County, N. Y., May 28, 1843, and on Feb. 12, 1893, married Thomas Huggins. She is now deceased. Politically James Gracy was a Democrat previous to the outbreak of the



*W. D. Hoy*





War of the Rebellion, when he allied himself with the Republican party. His wife was a member of the Baptist church. Mr. James Gracy died May 2, 1886, aged nearly seventy-four years.

John H. Gracy, the subject of this sketch, grew up among the pioneer families of McHenry County, and there received the usual common-school education, meanwhile being trained to the life of a farmer. He has extended the range of his information by reading and home study, and has always been a liberal patron of the daily and periodical press, so that now he is one of the well-informed citizens of McHenry County on general topics. For three terms he taught district school, two of which were in his home district. April, 1888, he was elected Supervisor for the town of Nunda, which office he held for fourteen consecutive years, until April, 1902. During this time he was twice chosen Chairman of the McHenry County Board. On October 6, 1880, Mr. Gracy was married to Emma L. Earle, who was born in Rochester, Wis., Jan. 2, 1859, the daughter of Calvin and Hannah (Parker) Earle. Both the Earles and the Parkers are of old New England ancestry. The genealogy of the Earle family has been published in book form, tracing the family back to 1638 in America and still back to 1154, when they were of Beckington, in the County of Somerset, England.

Calvin Earle, the father of Mrs. John H. Gracy, was a native of Westford, Vt., born May 2, 1814, and on Nov. 12, 1842, he was married to Hannah Parker, daughter of Theron and Rachel (Reed) Parker. He came west, locating in Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming and teaching school. Later he returned to New York where he married, but again returning to Wisconsin, settled in the vicinity of Rochester, Racine County, where he became a substantial farmer and well-to-do citizen. He was prominent in Congregational church work. Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Earle had the following named children, who lived to years of maturity, viz.: Rachel, Moses, W. Watson and Emma L.—the latter is now the wife of the subject of this sketch.

John H. Gracy and wife have two children: Royal W., born March 5, 1884, and Merton L., born Nov. 4, 1889. Mr. Gracy has continuously resided in the township of his birth, and for many years has been extensively engaged in

farming, now owning and operating more than 600 acres of land.

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#### M. D. HOY.

The subject of this sketch, an early settler of McHenry County and for many years a leading business man of Woodstock, is of Scotch-Irish extraction, his grandfather, Marmaduke Hoy, having been born in the Parish of Comress, Ireland, afterwards lived at Burris-a-Nostis, Parish of Kyle, County Queens, and married a Miss Whitford, a relative of Sir George Whitford. The family had lived for more than a century in Antrim. This Mr. Hoy was a farmer and in religious faith a Presbyterian. His children were: John, Joseph, Richard and Marmaduke. The last two emigrated to America about 1805, and Marmaduke (2) enlisted at Albany, N. Y., for the War of 1812, as a private in the New York "Greens," but died while in service near Plattsburg, N. Y. John, the oldest brother, married in Ireland, and had a son named Marmaduke, who came to Catskill, N. Y., and had two sons—Joseph and one other whose name is not remembered. Joseph still lives at Catskill and has a son Marmaduke. Richard, the son of Marmaduke (1), was born in 1784 at Comress, in the Parish of Upperwood, Ireland, sixty miles from Dublin, became a small farmer and learned the shoemaker's trade, partly with his father and partly in Dublin, where he worked several years. Coming to America about 1805, he worked at his trade for a time in Schoharie County, N. Y., with a Mr. Stevens, whose sister-in-law, Sarah Fanning, he married, afterwards settling at Albany, where he engaged in the grocery trade. Six years later he went to Gilboa, N. Y., kept a tollgate and followed his trade as shoemaker. His later years were spent at Stamford, Delaware County, N. Y., where he died July 27, 1831, aged forty-seven years. He was an industrious, law-abiding citizen, and, in his younger days, accumulated considerable property, but lost heavily by indorsing for his friends. He and his wife, Sarah Fanning Hoy, were the parents of six children: Mary A., Eliza, Nancy and Jane (twins), Marmaduke, Margaret (died when about eleven years of age) and John (died aged about two years). After Richard

Hoy's death, his widow married a Mr. Reuben Atwater.

Marmaduke Hoy (3), our subject, and son of Richard Hoy, was born near Gilboa, Schoharie County, N. Y., March 3, 1821, and received such education as the common schools of that period afforded. During his school days he began writing his name "M. D. Hoy," which he has since retained. After leaving the district school between seventeen and eighteen years of age, and spending one winter in a select school at Conesville, N. Y., he began teaching a district winter school at Huntersfield, in the town of Prattsville, Green County, N. Y., receiving a salary of \$10 per month. He taught during the winters until twenty-three years old, working on the farm with his step-father during the summer. June 15, 1843, he was married at Lockport, N. Y., to Miss Catherine Maria Alberty, born in Green County, N. Y., Feb. 19, 1821. She was the daughter of John and Esther (Atwater) Alberty, her father having been born in Green County, N. Y., the son of Bernard Alberty, a native of Germany, who married in New York. John Alberty became a substantial farmer in his native county, but afterwards removed to the vicinity of Lockport. The children of this family remembered were: Hannah, Esther, Bernard, John, Reuben, Catherine, Stephen, Thomas and Sarah. John Alberty was a devout Methodist and class-leader. He came to Illinois in his old age and died at the home of M. D. Hoy, aged about seventy-four years.

Less than one year after Marmaduke (M. D.) Hoy's marriage, he and his wife came by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes to Illinois, arriving at Southport (now Kenosha), Wis.—their intended destination—May 23, 1844, but owing to rough weather were compelled to go on to Chicago and back to Southport, thence making their way to Alden Township, McHenry County, where they began house-keeping. Mr. Hoy then made a foot journey of sixty miles into Wisconsin, but finding prices of land higher there, returned and purchased eighty acres in Alden Township for \$180. Having been joined on his journey from New York State by his brother-in-law, Reuben Alberty and wife, the two families lived together for a year in a log-cabin 14x24 feet, a story and a half high, with a loft reached by a ladder. Mr. Hoy then finished a partly built log house, which already stood on the place pur-

chased by him, and this became his home. This was a primitive affair with the ordinary stick-chimney. Here he lived three years, when he put up a frame addition and, three years later, a frame residence. For the first five years he farmed in a small way with little profit, but an excellent wheat crop at the end of this period, which he was able to sell at a good price, brought him a return for his labor and he and his wife were enabled to make a visit to his mother, which he had promised when leaving New York five years before. His mother and step-father afterwards came to Illinois, and lived near Mr. Hoy until their death. By industry and economy Mr. Hoy added to his estate until he was the owner of 150 acres of well-improved land. In 1865, having been elected County Clerk of McHenry County, he removed to Woodstock, remaining in office to the satisfaction of the people eight years. At the end of this time he engaged in mercantile business with his second son, George H., as partner. The firm prospered and became well and favorably known. In 1888 a general banking business was added to the concern; the firm now consists, as formerly, of M. D. Hoy and George H. Hoy, and they have associated with them Fremont and John M. Hoy. Luman T., another son, is a prominent druggist in an adjoining store. Besides other branches of business, the firm are the owners of a butter factory, which they have operated for nine years, and also conduct a Life and Fire Insurance business. There is no safer or more reliable business firm in McHenry County.

Mr. Hoy and his first wife, Catherine Maria (Alberty) Hoy, were the parents of five children: Sarah Delia, born Oct. 10, 1847; Luman Thomas, born Oct. 28, 1850; George H., born Feb. 21, 1853; Fremont, born June 1, 1856; Jennie, born June 26, 1859, died Sept. 21, 1861. Mrs. Hoy died July 23, 1863. She was a Methodist and a woman of many admirable traits of character. October 4, 1864, Mr. Hoy was married a second time, to Esther Eleanor Atwater, born in Schoharie County, N. Y., Feb. 20, 1833. Their children are: Kittie A., born July 27, 1865, and John M., born April 5, 1872.

Kittie Atwater Hoy, after living a sweet and loving life of seventeen years, passed over the dark river on Jan. 25, 1883, mourned and loved by all who knew her.





*Esther Atwater Hoy*



Sarah Delia Hoy married, on Jan. 25, 1871, with Ethelbert W. Wilbur, and they formerly made their home at Rockford, Iowa, but now (1902)) reside at Mesa, Arizona. Their children, Jennie E. and Gracie M., died after attaining mature age and fine mental attainments; George Herbert, Walter Hoy, Ethel May and Everet Ray are all living (1902.)

Luman Thomas Hoy, on October 28, 1875. married Anna Amelia Vandebogert, born Oct. 13, 1853, and they are the parents of two sons, Clinton Luman, born Oct. 17, 1876, and Eugene Richard, born July 7, 1878.

George Homer Hoy married April 4, 1877. Mary Lufannie Belcher, born Sept. 5, 1857, and their union has been blessed with two sons, William Pierson, born March 5, 1879, and Walter George, born Jan. 1, 1882.

Fremont Hoy married on Sept. 6, 1879, Harriet Victorine Osborn, born May 11, 1858, and they became the parents of the following named children: Clarence Fremont, born May 31, 1882; Marmaduke Ogden, born April 6, 1886, a fine, promising child until death claimed him, Aug. 28, 1892, (our love for him availed not to save); Arthur Dwight, born Sept. 7, 1889, and Kenneth Osborn, born Sept. 13, 1895.

John Marmaduke Hoy married Nov. 11, 1886. Letah May Bunker, born Sept. 8, 1874. They have no children.

All of the foregoing children and grandchildren of M. D. Hoy have their homes in Woodstock, except the family of the son-in-law and daughter, who reside at Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona.

Politically Mr. Hoy is a stanch Republican and one of the founders of that party in McHenry County. He cast his first vote for President for James G. Birney, the Abolition candidate, in 1844. In 1856 his vote was cast for John C. Fremont and, in 1860 and 1864, for Abraham Lincoln. While in no sense an office seeker, he has not shrunk from his duties as a citizen. Besides serving as County Clerk for eight years, he has held the offices of Justice of the Peace, Township Treasurer for a number of years, and Highway Commissioner; he has also been a champion of good schools and the earnest friend of every good cause. During the Civil War he was a zealous supporter of the Union cause, and while physically disqualified from serving as a soldier, on local committees

and otherwise was active in promoting enlistments and filling the quota of Alden Township. He had for associates on the local committee to promote enlistments Stephen Alberty, William Barnes, William Wedgewood and others. Finding the raising of funds on township and county securities to pay the bounty of \$600 per recruit impracticable, these gentlemen raised a considerable share of the needed amount on their personal notes, thereby saving the township about \$1,200 in discount.

Mr. Hoy united with the Methodist Church in 1861, and his career in connection with that denomination has been as noteworthy as in secular affairs. It was mainly through the efforts of himself, Richard Cuter, N. B. Helm and others, his associates on the building committee, that the \$1,000 for the erection of the first church edifice in Alden Township was secured. The frame-work having been blown down while in process of erection, leaving it a mass of broken lumber, the pastor, Rev. Mr. Reynolds, remarked: "If the Lord has blown his church down, He will blow it up again." Many of the men who had been employed upon the church having enlisted for the war, an excursion was planned to visit the soldiers in camp at Rockford. A train of cars was chartered on the Kenosha & Rockford Railroad, the company, instead of passenger cars, sending cattle and flat cars for the purpose. These were decorated and covered with branches of trees (it being summer time), and the excursion proved a great success, \$900 profit from fares received from the people from the various towns enroute being realized. This was applied to rebuilding the demolished structure, and thus the church was "blown up" again as unexpectedly as it had been blown down. This sum proved sufficient to complete the building, and no more was needed except to buy carpets. Mr. Hoy served as steward of this church and superintendent of the Sunday School. In 1865 Mr. Hoy removed to Woodstock, and he and his wife joined the first Methodist church there, of which he became steward. Later he served on the building committee in the erection of a new church edifice. He and Mr. George K. Bunker were active members of this committee, and succeeded in securing subscriptions to the amount of \$3,000. The architects submitted plans requiring an expenditure of twice this



sum, which the church people voted to adopt. This structure was also badly damaged by a storm, but was strengthened by extra sheeting and the filling of spaces with grout, the total cost being \$8,000, of which \$1,000 was obtained by the sale of the old edifice. On the day of dedication \$3,000 of this amount still remained to be raised. Charles Fowler, afterwards Bishop Fowler, who delivered the dedication sermon, in his appeal to the congregation for this sum, said: "Now brethren, we want eight men to give \$300 each." The whole sum was raised, the church relieved of debt and today it stands as one of the most substantial church edifices in Woodstock. Mr. Hoy and his family afterwards thought it their duty to withdraw from the Methodist church, as they thought the pastor an unworthy man.

On the maternal side, Mr. Hoy is of Scotch-Irish ancestry, through a prominent colonial American family. The written record of the Fanning family extends back more than six hundred years, furnishing ample testimony of their antiquity. Their coat of arms is found in heraldry. Believed to have been originally from Wales, they emigrated several centuries ago to Scotland, and thence to Ireland. Beginning with the Irish branch of the family, Dominic Fanning was a historical character, was Mayor of the City in Ireland and was beheaded by Cromwell during the civil war. His son, Edmond, having escaped the Irish massacre, came to Stonington, Conn., in 1641, and, according to some authorities, led a wandering life for eleven years, finally settling at New London, Conn. He married Catherine, daughter of Hugh Hays, Earl of Connaught, and had children: Edmond, John, Thomas, Mary (wife of Benjamin Hewitt), and William. From this family originated the old Fanning families of Connecticut, Long Island and New York, whose posterity is now widely scattered throughout the United States. Capt. Walter Fanning, the maternal grandfather of Mr. Hoy, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and later a pensioner. He was a farmer in New York and married Grace Benjamin, Nov. 6, 1771, their children being: Catherine, born Aug. 12, 1772; Joshua, born Aug. 13, 1774; Benjamin, born Aug. 19, 1776; Thomas, born Sept. 6, 1778; Phoebe and Elizabeth (twins), born April 22, 1781; John, born Aug. 1, 1783; Sarah (the mother of Mrs. Hoy), born

Oct. 15, 1785. Capt. Walter Fanning died near Gilboa, N. Y., and his widow at the home of her son Benjamin, aged eighty years. There were many patriot soldiers of the name in the War of the Revolution, while others were prominent and influential royalists. One of those on the patriot side was Gilbert Fanning of Stonington, Conn. Charles Fanning was appointed Ensign of the General Assembly. Lieutenant John Fanning was in command of the frigate Trumbull in August, 1781, when he was captured by the British and taken to New York. His brother John was Lieutenant on the Randolph, and was blown up with the frigate Yarmouth of sixty-four guns. Another of the family, Capt. Nathaniel Fanning, was a midshipman with Paul Jones, in the fight with the "Serapis," and received a special commendation for his gallantry, and afterwards commanded various French vessels. A brother of his commanded a privateer which was captured by the British; still another (Capt. Edmond Fanning) made a voyage around the world, in command of a corvette sailing under letters of marque, discovering a number of islands which were named "Washington," "Fanning," "Brintnells," and "Williams;" was also projector of an expedition to the South Polar Sea. Another prominent in the history of the Revolution was Thomas Fanning, who won distinction by his efficient discharge of his duties as a commissary in connection with Connecticut troops. The most prominent royalist was a Col. Edmond Fanning, who raised a regiment under Gov. Tryon and, as a consequence, lost a large property by confiscation. Col. A. C. W. Fanning, late of the United States Artillery, was a distinguished scholar as well as a soldier, serving with credit in the War of 1812 and in the Florida War. Dr. Nelson Fanning served as surgeon in a regiment raised in Schoharie County, N. Y., in the War of the Rebellion.

Mrs. Esther Eleanor Hoy is descended, on the maternal side, from the Atwater family of colonial and Puritan New England ancestry. Stephen Atwater, her grandfather, a farmer of Green (now Schoharie) County, N. Y., was married July 17, 1771, to Hannah Mead. Their children were: John, born May 30, 1772 (died Oct. 24, 1776); Levi, born April 13, 1774 (died Oct. 12, 1776); Stephen, born Nov. 12, 1775 (died July 11, 1777); Stephen (2), born Feb.



*Catharine Maria Hoy*





21 1778 (died Dec. 12, 1778); Reuben, born Nov. 27, 1779; Lydia, born Feb. 17, 1782 (died July 12, 1816); Hannah, born Jan. 13, 1784 (died Dec. 6, 1805); Esther, born Oct. 31, 1785; Sarah, born Jan. 23, 1788; Mead, born Jan. 24, 1790; Titus, born July 5, 1792; John (2), born Oct. 15, 1795 (died Oct. 17, 1826). The father of Stephen Atwater died April 13, 1774, and his mother August 1, 1781. Titus Atwater, of the above named family, was born on his father's farm in Schoharie County, N. Y., became a farmer and married Jane Hay, the daughter of Daniel Hay, a native of Scotland—her mother being of German descent. The children of Titus and wife were: Catherine, Emily, James, Daniel, Reuben (died aged twelve years), Esther E., and Myra, who died after reaching maturity. Titus Atwater, the father of Mrs. Hoy, was a Free-Will Baptist, and in politics, an original Abolitionist and later a Republican. He made his home for a few years with his son, James Atwater, but later lived at the home of his son-in-law, Adolphus Craw, near Lockport, N. Y., where he died at the age of eighty-two years.

#### JOHN M. HOY.

John M. Hoy, banker, Woodstock, Ill., and leading business man of McHenry County, was born in Woodstock, April 5, 1875, the son of M. D. and Esther E. (Atwater) Hoy. The son received his education in the public schools of his native county and the Woodstock High School, from which he graduated, besides receiving supplementary training under the direction of a private tutor. Later he engaged in business as a clerk in his father's dry goods store in Woodstock, of which he finally became business manager.

Mr. Hoy remained in mercantile business until 1901, when the firm of M. D. Hoy & Sons bought out the bank of Cook Brothers of Huntley, McHenry County, of which John M. Hoy assumed the position of manager and cashier in September following. The bank is a private institution, conducted under the firm name of M. D. Hoy & Sons, with a capital of \$25,000. It is one of the principal institutions of its kind in the southern part of McHenry County, and under the conservative and careful management of John M. Hoy is doing a safe and prosperous business.

In politics Mr. Hoy is a Republican and has served one term as City Treasurer of Woodstock. In his native city and county he enjoys a high reputation as a capable and trustworthy business man.

Mr. Hoy was married in Woodstock Nov. 11, 1896, to Letah May Bunker, the daughter of Amos K. and Adell (Sherman) Bunker, of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Hoy now reside in Woodstock.

#### LIEUT. WILLIAM H. HUFFMAN.

Lieut. William H. Huffman pioneer, farmer and Civil War veteran, now residing at Nunda, McHenry County, was born in Nunda, Livingston County, N. Y., June 20, 1827, of Holland Dutch ancestry. Mathias Huffman, grandfather of William H., was a native of Holland, born March 20, 1773, and at fifteen years of age came to America, probably first settling in Pennsylvania. Some time between 1794 and 1799 he moved his family and household effects, by means of horse and wagon, to the vicinity of Auburn, Cayuga County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm. He also established a hotel, which he managed for many years. He was long a substantial and influential citizen of Auburn and there he died, Oct. 30, 1833. May 20, 1793, Mr. Huffman married in Pennsylvania, Eve Simms, who was born Jan. 27, 1775, and died July 11, 1846. Of this union there were twelve children: William, born Jan. 4, 1794; Philip, born Oct. 30, 1795, and was a soldier in the War of 1812; Elsie, born Oct. 30, 1797; Catherine, born Nov. 11, 1799; Elizabeth, born March 4, 1802; Ann, born June 11, 1804; Phoebe, born March, 4, 1807; John born March 1, 1809, and died in 1812; Submit, born Feb. 23, 1811; Abigail, born April 10, 1813; Hiram, born Aug. 30, 1815; and Polly, born Nov. 3, 1816.

Brig.-Gen. William Huffman, who was the oldest of these children, became father of Lieut. Huffman, for many years a farmer and hotel keeper in New York State. He was born in Pennsylvania, and in childhood came with his parents to Auburn, N. Y., and here was reared to both farming and hotel-keeping. August 25, 1814, he married in Camillus, N. Y., Lovilla Sears, who was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., June 10, 1793, and died Oct. 25, 1875. Their children were: Hulda, Philip M., Catherine

Julia, David, William H., Laura, John F., born June 14, 1831, and Charles, born Jan. 1, 1834.

After his marriage Mr. Huffman settled upon new land near Auburn, N. Y., where he cleared a farm, but in 1824 moved to Nunda, N. Y., and there opened a hotel, which he conducted until 1837. During that year he moved with his family to McHenry County, Ill., taking steamer at Buffalo for Detroit, and from there making the journey overland by horse and wagon. At Detroit the family was joined by the Joslyn family, among whom was Judge Merritt L. Joslyn, now of Woodstock. The Huffmans purchased a claim from a Mr. Douglas for \$300, half a mile from Crystal Lake, and finishing up a half completed log cabin, there passed the winter. The Joslyn family lived a mile distant with a few other neighbors, among whom were a Mr. Crandall and Abraham Beardsley. The Huffman claim proving low and wet, late in the fall of 1838, Mr. Huffman purchased of Daniel Brady a claim of 160 acres of prairie and timber land, on what is now known as the Huffman Prairie, which he afterwards entered at the Government Land Office. Mr. Huffman cleared up this tract and put it under cultivation, adding to its area until it embraced 300 acres. Here he passed his last days, dying Dec. 15, 1857, at the age of nearly sixty-four years.

Mr. Huffman was a man of prominence and in New York, served for a number of years as Brigadier-General of the State militia. During the War of 1812 he was drafted for service, but secured his release in order to care for his aged father. He took an active part in the building up of McHenry County and gave to the town of Nunda its name, from the place in which he had resided in New York.

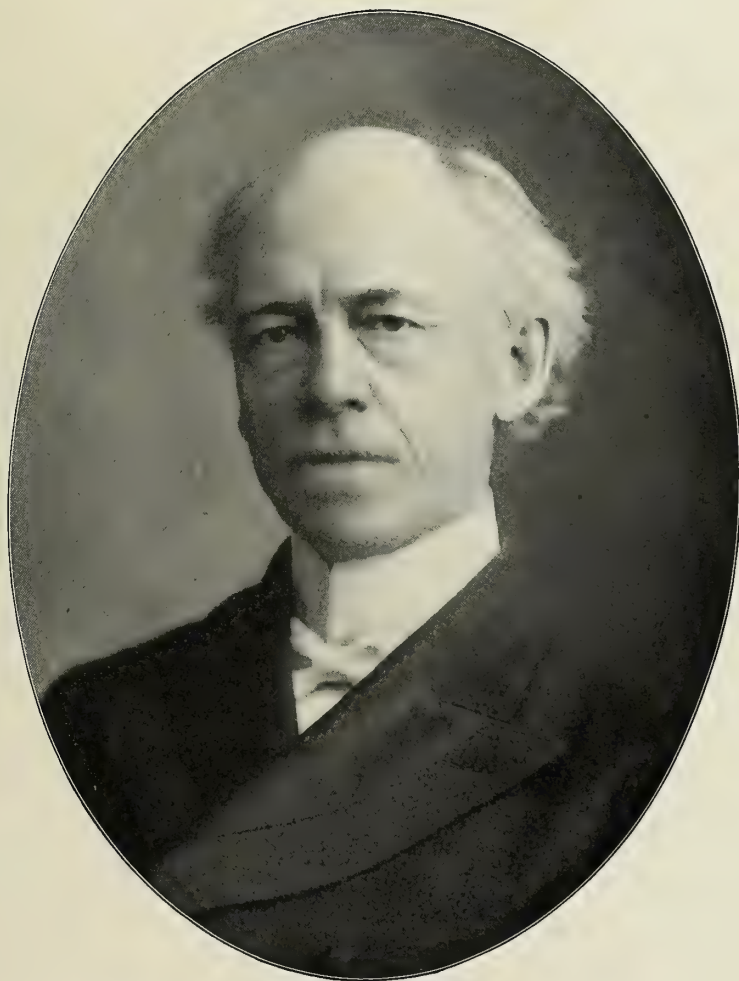
Lieut. William H. Huffman was reared to farm work, and was but eleven years old when the family moved to McHenry County. He well remembers the journey, and how the Huffman and Joslyn boys walked most of the way, and of the scraps they had with the village boys on the way. For a number of years after coming to Illinois, Mr. Huffman attended the schools of his neighborhood—known as the Huffman district—in winter, while working upon the farm in summer. Upon reaching manhood he purchased of his father a part of the family homestead, where, after his marriage, he located,

remaining until the opening of the Civil War. September 4, 1862, he enlisted at Nunda as a private in Company D, Ninety-fifth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and went to the front. He was soon after elected Second Lieutenant, and later promoted to First Lieutenant, often serving as Captain when his superior officer was disabled. During his period of service he took part with his regiment in Gen. Grant's campaign in Northern Mississippi in the fall of 1862, and later in the Vicksburg campaign, the Red River expedition and many other important movements. The history of these expeditions is, in large part, a history of the soldiers of the Ninety-fifth Illinois from McHenry County, who took part in some of the most memorable engagements of the war, including the capture of Vicksburg and the opening of the Mississippi to the sea, as well as the sad affair at Guntown, Miss., the destruction of Hood's army at Nashville and the final round-up at Mobile, following the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely.

After the war Mr. Huffman returned to McHenry County, where he took up farming on his section of the homestead. He improved his property and added to its area until he is now one of the largest land owners in his section of McHenry County. About thirty years ago he purchased a pleasant residence in Nunda, where he has since, for the most part, made his home.

October 5, 1852, Mr. Huffman was united in marriage at Nunda, Livingston County, N. Y., to Mary Starkweather, a former schoolmate, who was born Dec. 22, 1828, in Cato, Cayuga County, N. Y. Mr. Huffman is a man of influence, and for two years has served as Justice of the Peace.

Thomas Starkweather, son of Ezra Starkweather, and father of Mrs. Huffman, is of Pennsylvania Dutch stock, the early members of the family having settled in that State in colonial times. When a young man he came to Cayuga County, N. Y., and there married Elvira Butler, daughter of David Butler, a blacksmith by trade, who came of an old Vermont family, and who married Annice Wellington. Mr. Starkweather died at the age of forty-five years. To him and his wife were born three children: Ann, Mary and Lydia. After his marriage Mr. Starkweather settled upon a farm in Cayuga County, where he made an excellent home for



*Saml Cox May*





himself. Mrs. Starkweather died when upwards of eighty years of age.

PHILIP M. HUFFMAN, an older brother of Lieut. William H. Huffman, was born in Auburn, Cayuga County, N. Y., March 5, 1821, and was about three years old when his parents moved into their hotel in Nunda, N. Y. In the common schools of the latter place he received a limited education, and at an early age turned his attention to farming. At the age of seventeen he accompanied his parents to McHenry County, where he first assisted his father in clearing up the new homestead. He was an excellent shot and helped to reduce the great number of wild beasts, killing in one winter six deer and as many wolves. During this period he made many trips by way of Elgin to Chicago, where at first all the marketing had to be done, allowing himself three days for the journey, and bringing home lumber, groceries and other supplies. Later he procured his goods at Waukegan, a nearer station.

At twenty-three years of age Mr. Huffman married in Kishwaukee Prairie, Dorr township, Althea Turner, who was born in Ypsilanti, Mich. Dec. 18, 1826, the daughter of Josiah Turner, a farmer of that place. Mr. Turner died at Ypsilanti, Mich., but had six children, who settled in McHenry County, Ill., viz.: Harrison, Orsamus, Ann, Betsy, Emma and Althea. Mr. and Mrs. Huffman had six children, three of whom died young. The others are William, Amelia and Charles.

After marriage Mr. Huffman resided for two years on a rented farm upon Crystal Lake Prairie, and for the next three years upon a portion of Dewitt Brady's farm. Then purchasing 100 acres of prairie and timber land on Huffman Prairie, he there established a home for himself, finally becoming the owner of 260 acres. He has since sold eighty acres, making the present area of his farm 180 acres.

Mr. Huffman has figured prominently in the affairs of his township, having served as school director for a long time and for fifteen years as constable. Politically he is a stanch Republican. He is fond of reminiscence, and relates how he and his brothers and the Joslyn boys—among them the present Judge Joslyn, of Woodstock—walked across the State of Michigan from Detroit to McHenry County, keeping up with the horses most of the way. (For in-

cidents of this trip see the preceding sketch of William Huffman.) He remembers well the old chinked and daubed log cabin on the Crystal Lake claim, and how he and his father and brothers had to provide for it a roof and floor, and build a brick fireplace before they could pass the winter there. The same energy shown in these early pioneering experiences Mr. Huffman has manifested in every undertaking in life, and he has been a most powerful factor in the building up of McHenry County.

#### REV. SAMUEL COX HAY.

Rev. Samuel Cox Hay, Clergyman, Pastor First Presbyterian Church, Woodstock, Ill., is descended from old colonial and Revolutionary ancestry, though of Scotch-Irish descent. His grandfather, Col. Samuel Hay, born in County Armagh, Ireland, came to America sometime prior to the Revolution and first settled in New York, whence he removed to Carlisle, Penn., and there engaged in the iron business. On Jan. 9, 1776, he joined the colonial army as Captain of the Sixth Pennsylvania Battalion, composed of employes connected with his blast furnaces at Carlisle. October 5, 1776, he was made a Captain in the Seventh Regiment, and on Feb. 21, 1778, was transferred to the Fourth Regiment, Second Pennsylvania Line, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and, in recognition of his bravery in leading the attack as acting Colonel at battle of Stony Point, on July 16, 1779, was presented by General Washington with a brace of pistols. He served under Gen. Anthony Wayne in the attack on Stony Point, and was severely wounded on that occasion in the hip, in consequence of which he was compelled to retire from the service Jan. 17, 1781. His services at Stony Point received special commendation. After the war he became a charter member of the "Society of the Cincinnati," composed of retired officers of the army, of which General Washington was a member, and was Captain of the "Silver Grays," at Newark, N. J.; was Postmaster of Newark about 1789, and was one of the organizers and a member of the first Board of Trustees of the Newark Academy. He was a prominent member of the Masonic Fraternity, and, after the war, corresponded extensively with his fellow officers, among

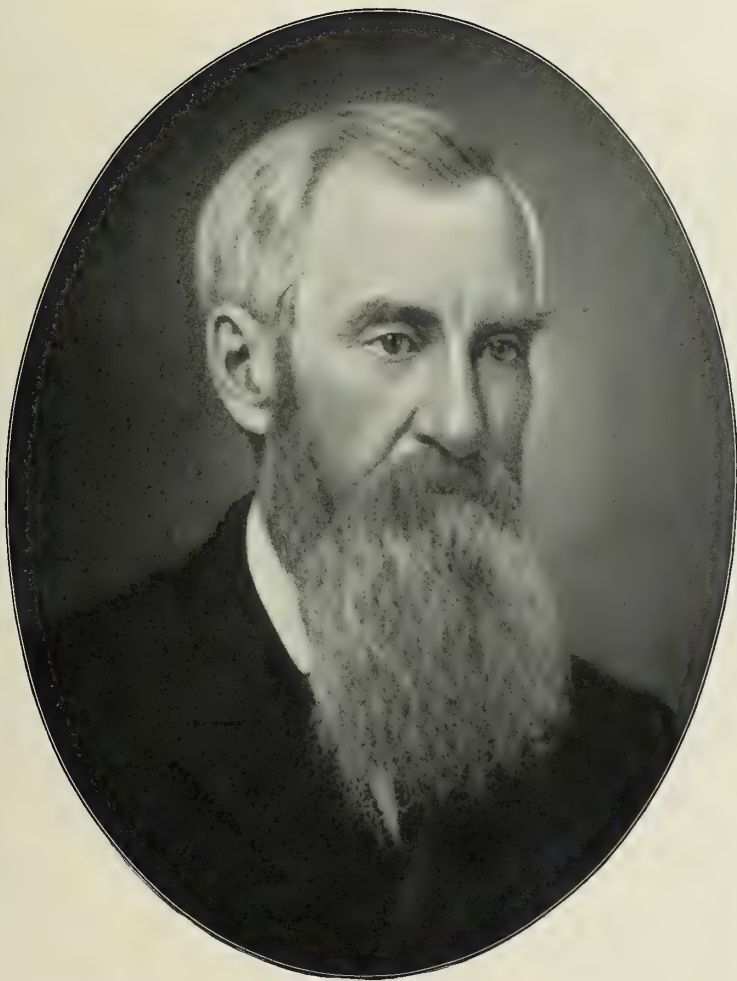
whom he enjoyed a reputation for exalted patriotism. Many of his letters were carefully preserved by the recipients.

Rev. Philip Courtland Hay, the son of Col. Samuel Hay, and father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Newark, N. J., in 1783, graduated from Princeton College, and studied theology with Rev. James Richards, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Newark, and afterwards Professor of Theology in the Theological Seminary at Auburn, N. Y. His first pastorate was in connection with the Presbyterian church at Mendham, N. J., after which he accepted a call to the Second Presbyterian church at Newark, where he remained ten years. In 1836 he removed to Geneva, Ontario County, N. Y., where he spent another decade in successful ministerial work, after which he took charge of the Presbyterian church at Owego, Tioga County, N. Y. After eight years of strenuous labor here, during which he lost the use of his voice, he removed to Orange, N. J., and there established a classical school for boys. After a few months rest, having recovered the use of his voice, he resumed preaching in connection with the Orange Valley congregation, continuing up to the day of his sudden death, which occurred in December, 1860. Rev. Dr. Hay was Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly of 1849, and received the degree of D. D. from Princeton College. His wife was a Miss Elizabeth Condit, born at Newark, N. J., in 1808, the daughter of Hon. Silas and Elizabeth (Smith) Condit. The former was a banker of Newark, a soldier of the War of 1812, and served as a member of Congress from New Jersey for many years. Mr. Condit was a close personal friend of the distinguished Theodore Frelinghuysen. His father, John Condit, was an early graduate of Princeton College and served as surgeon during the Revolutionary War, and later represented New Jersey in the United States Senate. The historic Condit home at the foot of the Orange Mountains in New Jersey is still standing.

Rev. Samuel Cox Hay, the son of Rev. Philip Courtland and Elizabeth (Condit) Hay, was born at Geneva, N. Y., Oct. 1, 1836, acquired his classical education at Owego Academy and Hamilton College, N. Y., and began his theological course at Union Theological Seminary, New York City. In 1863 he was licensed to

preach by the Rockaway Presbytery. On Jan. 1, 1864, he arrived in Illinois, established a Presbyterian church in Will County and, during the same year, entered the McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, from which he graduated in 1865. In October of that year he went to Woodstock and, for a time, supplied the pulpit of the First Presbyterian church of that city, which had been organized by the Rev. J. B. Plumstead, and of which Rev. R. K. Todd had been the first pastor. Declining an invitation to accept the pastorate of this church at that time, he went to Apalachin, N. Y., where he became pastor of a Presbyterian church and, in June, 1867, was married to Sarah Oakley, who was a native of Geneva, N. Y., born in December, 1836, the daughter of Dr. Lewis and Mary (Halsey) Oakley. Immediately after marriage Mr. Hay, accompanied by his wife, came to Crystal Lake, McHenry County, and accepted the pastorate of the Congregational church, at that place, one of the oldest and strongest churches in the county. Here he remained one year, when he removed to St. Louis and there accepted the pastorate of the Carondelet Presbyterian church, but a year later resigned on account of the ill effects of the climate upon his wife's health. Then (August, 1870), returning to Woodstock, he accepted the pastorate of the First Presbyterian church there, where he has since remained except four years spent as pastor of the First Presbyterian church at De Pere, Wis., and two years as pastor of the Crystal Lake Congregational church. During a pastorate covering a period of twenty-four years, he has had the satisfaction of seeing this church, by a steady growth, develop from a condition of comparative weakness to one of the most prosperous in Northern Illinois outside of the city of Chicago. In the arduous labors necessary to the accomplishment of these results, he has always had the aid of his efficient and devoted wife. Rev. Mr. Hay's career has been one of unselfish devotion to the higher interests of humanity, and he is noted for the spirit of benevolence which has ever characterized his life, and which has been illustrated by his readiness to contribute to the aid of those in distress. Of high culture and broad literary attainments, he has accumulated a handsome library, and has been a frequent contributor to the religious press, and





*Alexander H. Hanley.*





*Mrs. Alexander H. Hawley.*





is the author of a number of pamphlets upon subjects of interest to a large class of readers, including among the latter a pamphlet entitled "Christianity versus Ingersoll." He has also been actively interested in the cause of general education and the public schools. He has put the mind of a scholar and the heart and strong personality of the devoted pastor into his lifework; and, with mental and physical powers unimpaired, it is hoped that he may long be spared to impart to others those kindly and benevolent attentions which have been so characteristic of his career, and to enjoy the confidence and esteem which are the reward of the consistent and conscientious Christian teacher.

Rev. and Mrs. Hay are the parents of the following named children: Dr. Philip Condit Hay, who is a graduate of the medical department of the Northwestern University, and, at present, a successful practitioner in medicine in the city of Chicago; Miss Anna L. Hay, formerly a teacher in the schools of Michigan and Illinois, is now married to Mr. Edward Cort Thurnau and a resident of Chicago; Mary Oakley Hay, was educated at Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., and became the private secretary of Dr. Finley, then President of that institution. She was afterwards, for a time, a teacher in Chicago and is now teaching in Virginia. She is a lady of marked literary ability and attainments.

#### THE HANLY BROTHERS.

Captain Samuel Hanly was one of the pioneer settlers of Hector, Schuyler County, N. Y., where he owned a large tract of land. He served as a captain in the War of the Revolution, and for his service being entitled to a bounty of 500 acres of land, selected Lot 39, Township 21, where, in the year 1802, the town of Hector was platted. Capt. Samuel Hanly's brother, Israel, was also a pioneer of Hector, and he and the father were both patriot soldiers in the Revolutionary War, the latter being killed in battle. Samuel Hanly was the father of twelve children, to each of whom he left a legacy of \$1,500. His eldest son, Ebenezer, who was grandfather of the Hanly brothers of McHenry County, became a farmer and married Hannah Reynolds, daughter of Rev. James Reynolds, a wealthy Baptist minister.

They moved to Ohio where Mr. Hanly shortly afterwards died, leaving but one child, an infant son, Alexander Hamilton Hanly, born Aug. 23, 1816. Ebenezer's widow married as her second husband Henry Saler, but the son, Alexander H., was reared in the home of his grandfather, Capt. Samuel Hanly.

Alexander H. Hanly was born at Ilion N. Y., and settled near McHenry, Ill., in March, 1837, where he became a substantial farmer, miller and business man. His old homestead is occupied by his sons, George H. and B. S. Hanly, who manage the farm and mill. Alexander H. came to Illinois in his twenty-first year, arriving in February, 1837, and a month later came to McHenry County, where he and another young man from his native county bought a claim. This claim was "jumped" in their absence and fifty pioneers gathered and tore down the cabin of the man who had taken possession of it. Notwithstanding they were thus protected by their neighbors, they abandoned the claim and Mr. Hanly bought a half-interest in the farm now owned by his sons, paying \$300 for a squatter's right. For several years he broke land in McHenry County and Southern Wisconsin, sometimes using as many as seven yoke of oxen where the sod was very tough and filled with roots.

After his marriage, which occurred in 1841, Mr. Hanly located on the present Hanly homestead, which he improved and added to until it consisted of 765 acres, mostly under cultivation. His sons, who were industrious, hard-working young men, assisted him materially, and the summer of 1885 saw the erection on the place of a fine two-story brick house which cost ten thousand dollars. An active, enterprising business man, Mr. Hanly from time to time engaged in important enterprises. In 1869 he built a flouring mill, which he operated during his life, and which is still doing a good business. Assisted by his sons, he became the most extensive grower of fine stock in McHenry County, and bred and marketed large numbers of horses, cattle and sheep, besides operating a large dairy. He was one of the founders and was Master of the Grange at McHenry, and was purchasing agent for all bodies of the Patrons of Husbandry in McHenry County, and in that capacity handled large sums of money. He was for many years a School Director at McHenry and took a deep

interest in public education. Politically he was an unswerving Republican.

Susan Sherman, who on Oct. 3, 1841, became Mrs. Alexander H. Hanly, was born in Fulton County, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1819, a daughter of Benson and Wealthy (Gates) Sherman. Benson Sherman, who was a native of New York, was among the pioneers of McHenry County as early as 1838. He settled on the Samuel Sherman farm, two miles west of McHenry, redeemed it from the wilderness and built upon it a large cabin with a big fire-place and a stick chimney. He became the owner of three or four hundred acres of land and was a prominent and respected citizen. Wealthy Gates became his wife when she was sixteen years old and they both died at the age of eighty years. They had children named Melissa, Susan, Elizabeth, Jeremiah, Samuel and Jane. Susan, who became Mrs. Hanly, had the advantage of an academic education and she taught school in her father's cabin in McHenry County before there was any school house in the neighborhood, and during life took in interest in literary and educational matters. A woman of high moral and christian character, she was a friend of all good influences; a devoted wife and mother, she had the love of husband and children to the fullest extent; charitable beyond most women, she won the blessings of the poor; and her hospitality was such that her house was a favorite resort of all who knew her, and no stranger was ever turned from its door. Mr. Hanly was a man of broad mind and independent spirit, an Odd Fellow and one of the founders of the Universalist church at McHenry, in which Mrs. Hanly was a member and also helpfully interested. Mr. Hanly died Jan. 12, 1891, Mrs. Hanly, April 10, 1900. Their children were: Emma, born July 23, 1842, who died in infancy; Samuel Benson, born Aug. 29, 1843; George H., born May 9, 1846; John Edmund, born Jan. 16, 1849; Daniel Francis, born Nov. 22, 1863—all born on the old family homestead in McHenry County.

The Hanly brothers attended the district school near their home and later took a thorough business course in the Bryant & Stratton Business College, Chicago, giving special attention to mathematics and commercial law, and from which they graduated in 1868 and 1869. After graduation in 1868, Samuel B. Hanly took

charge of the flouring mill, which he operated for about fifteen years, carrying on an extensive business in the manufacture of a fine grade of flour. He also assisted in conducting a large brick-yard, where the brick used in the construction of the family residence was manufactured. In 1883 he removed to Chicago and there assumed control of the wholesale milk-trade of the Hanly Brothers, displaying exceptional business ability in the management of their dairy interests for nearly twenty years. Their Chicago business has recently been transferred to other parties.

George H. Hanly was early made useful as an assistant to his father and did his full share toward the erection of the residence and flouring mill. He took much interest in sheep and bought seven hundred head at a single purchase in Wisconsin and, at one time, the Hanlys had fifteen hundred sheep, mostly merinos, on their farm. He assisted also to establish the Hanly dairy and, in 1883, the Hanly Brothers established a wholesale milk trade in Chicago, to which point they shipped milk from one hundred cows on their farm and much milk bought from farmers on the Fox River Railroad. The Hanly Brothers own a fine farm of 760 acres, including the old Hanly homestead, handle many horses and cattle, operate the flour mill, besides giving attention to other interests.

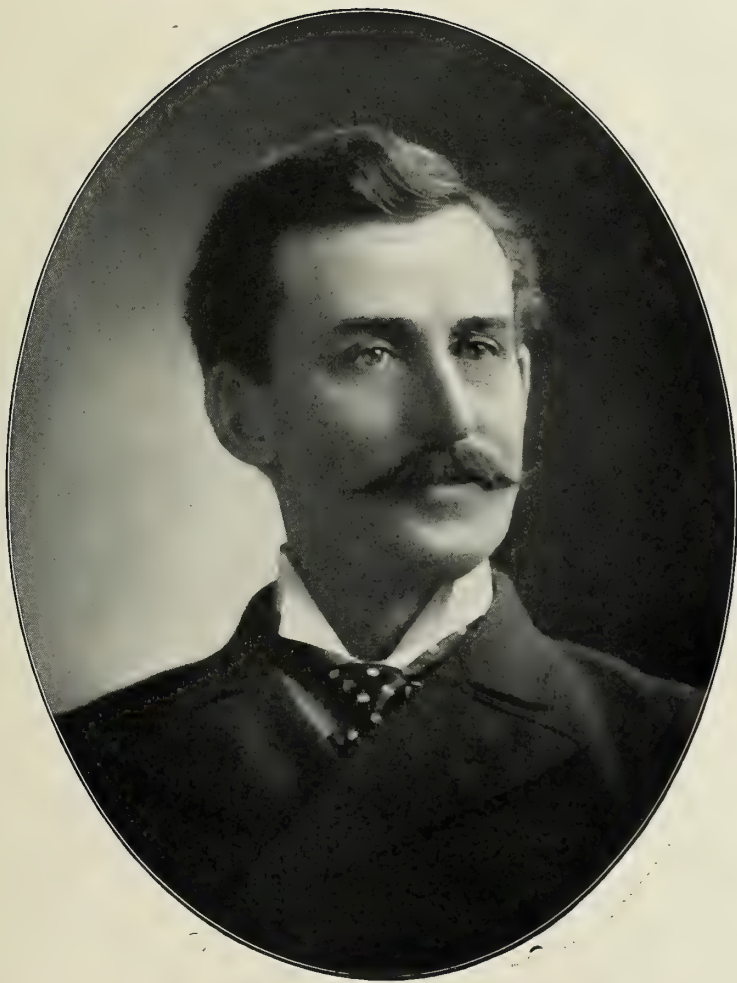
George H. Hanly is a man of much mental independence who frames his own opinions from practical experiences in life. One of his predominant qualities is his fidelity to his friends. He was formerly a Republican, but is now an advocate of the principles advocated by William Jennings Bryan. He was received as an Entered Apprentice, passed the Fellow Craft Degree and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in McHenry Lodge, No. 158, A. F. & A. M., of which he is Worshipful Master, and took the degrees of Chivalric Masonry in the Woodstock Commandery of Knights Templar, and was constituted, dubbed and created a Knight Templar. He is a member of the Knights of Maccabees and is Commander of his body of the order at McHenry. His interest in public education impelled him to accept election as a member of the Board of Education of McHenry, which his fellow-citizens have twice thrust upon him, but he is too busy to take an active interest in politics.





*S. B. Warrly*





Geo. H. Hauley





John Edmund, third son of Alexander H. Hanly, was born on the family homestead in McHenry County, Jan. 16, 1849, received his education in the McHenry County public schools and in Todd Seminary at Woodstock, and during his youth was chiefly employed in his father's mill. He married at Woodstock Ella H. Shirts, who was born in Lyons, Wayne County, N. Y., daughter of John E. Shirts, who was a skillful carpenter and became a pioneer settler of Lake County, Ill., making the journey from New York to Illinois on foot. After being connected with the milling business in McHenry County, Mr. Hanly moved to Chicago, where he entered into the milk business, but in 1902 went to Elgin where he is engaged in the express business. John E. Hanly and wife are the parents of two sons—Dr. Harry Hamilton and George Alexander Hanly. Politically Mr. Hanly is a Republican, in religious belief a Universalist, and a member of the Order of Modern Woodmen of America. Dr. Harry Hamilton Hanly married Beatrice Perry of McHenry.

David Francis Hanly, fourth son of this family, was born on the family homestead Nov. 22, 1863; was educated in the public schools of his native county, and in the Business College at Dixon, Ill., after which his early life was devoted to work on the farm and in his father's mill. March 11, 1890, he was married at Rossburgh, N. Y., to Florence A. Bennett, who was born in Granger County, N. Y., Oct. 13, 1867, the daughter of Jesse and Carrie (Snider) Bennett. Her father was a soldier of the Civil War, serving for three years in the One Hundred and Fourth New York Volunteer Infantry, and for twenty-five years was a merchant at Rossburgh, but is now retired. David Francis Hanly and wife are members of the Universalist church; in politics he is a Republican and fraternally a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has established a reputation as a successful business man and, besides other property interests, is the owner of the pleasant home where he now resides.

#### NOBLE HILL.

Noble Hill, Educator, Principal of Todd Seminary, Woodstock, Ill., was born at Economy, Colchester County, Nova Scotia, June 1, 1853, the son of Charles Edward and

Isabel Hill, and is descended from Scotch-Irish ancestors, who came to Nova Scotia at an early day. Charles Edward Hill was a ship-builder and constructed many ships and trading vessels. He had general charge of the business and, according to the custom of the time, supplied the men employed in the yard with the necessities of life, including all kinds of merchandise. His children are: James, now a gold-miner at Cape Nome, Alaska; Noble, the subject of this sketch; Annie, now the wife of George W. Jeans, of San Francisco, and Richard A., of Los Angeles, Cal. About 1884 Mr. Hill and wife went to California, where some of his children had previously located, dying there in 1889. Prof. Noble Hill received a good rudimentary education in the public schools of his native country, which, later, was supplemented by a thorough course in Berea College, Ky. In his youth, as happened to many of the boys living adjacent to the sea-coast, he was seized with a passion for the sea, and when only about fifteen years of age, shipped before the mast on a large vessel to cross the Atlantic to Bristol, Eng., and thence to St. Johns, N. B. After this voyage he saw service as a sailor on coasting vessels, visiting many cities on the Atlantic coast, including Portland, Me., Boston, and other places, in this way acquiring the discipline not laid down in the books, but none the less necessary to the making of the true sailor. The well-trained sailor, from the moment he signs the articles which give him the right to tread the ship's deck, is taught to render respect and obedience to his superior officers, and the young sailor quickly learns to touch his cap and say, "Aye, aye, sir," in response to any command from the second mate. The life of the sailor-boy is a hard one, but he learns to do many useful things; to live upon the simplest and, at times, the most meager diet, and bear a hand at anything that may be needed. It requires several voyages, however, to transform the green hand even into an ordinary sailor, and years for him to become the trained seaman qualified to "hand, reef or steer," as the phrase goes. Young Hill became a skillful sailor, but found that the life afforded few attractions for an ambitious boy, and little opportunity for improving his mind after his monotonous duties had been faithfully performed. Impressed with these con-

victions and desiring to engage in some employment which would give him the opportunity to advance more rapidly, he sought duty on land, and, for a time, found employment on a farm between the old historic towns of Concord and Lexington, Mass. Here he carefully saved his wages, and finally entered Berea College in the mountainous district of East Kentucky, where he completed his course in 1887. An interim of two years from the beginning of 1885 to the beginning of 1887, he was compelled to spend in Colorado on account of failing health. At the close of his college course he spent six months in California and then came to Woodstock, where in 1888, he became Assistant Principal of the Todd Seminary for boys, at that time still in charge of Rev. R. K. Todd, by whom it had been founded over fifty years ago. Professor Hill soon gave evidence of his knowledge as a scholar and his skill as a teacher, and a year later became one of the principal instructors in Hampton Institute, Va., being assigned to the Indian Department under control of the United States Government. Here he was the only white teacher occupying quarters in the section set apart for Indian pupils and known as the "Indian Wigwam," thereby acquiring the title of the "Wigwam Father." After teaching there one year with excellent success, at the end of the school year he accompanied some of his Indian pupils to their homes, visiting several of the tribes and familiarizing himself with their modes of life, manners and customs—an experience which he thoroughly enjoyed. In 1889 he returned to Woodstock to resume his connection with the Todd Seminary, where he remained until 1892. Prof. Todd having then decided to retire, Prof. Hill purchased the institution, which he has since conducted with marked success. Since coming into possession of the institution he has introduced some important improvements, equipping the buildings with steam heat and electric lights, besides adding a large and well-conducted gymnasium. The number of pupils admitted to the school is restricted to forty, who are carefully selected, boys of unruly character or vicious habits being excluded. As a consequence, the school has the reputation of being one of the most high-toned, both as to morals and scholarship, in the country. Prof. Hill employs five teachers, besides a matron and such other assistants as

may be needed. Pupils are admitted at six to seven years of age, and grow up in the institution under the same careful moral and mental training which they would receive in a well conducted home, until fitted for college or prepared to enter professional or business life. The morals of the pupils are carefully looked after, and the result is shown in their gentlemanly deportment and general good conduct. The school is a place of comfort and recreation, as well as of study and discipline, its ample and well-shaded grounds making it an ideal place for out-door sports, while the spacious parlors and well-filled library contribute to the social and intellectual development of the pupils in a most satisfactory manner. The institution is non-sectarian, though closely affiliated with the First Presbyterian church of Woodstock, under the pastorate of the Rev. Samuel Cox Hay, the pupils coming from a wide extent of country, including States as far distant as Colorado and California. Professor Rogers, the father of Mrs. Hill, pastor of the Apostolic church at Hartford, Conn., was one of the founders and the first President of Berea College. He is a gentleman of wide learning and experience, and married Elizabeth Lewis, who belonged to a family of the Society of Friends in Philadelphia.

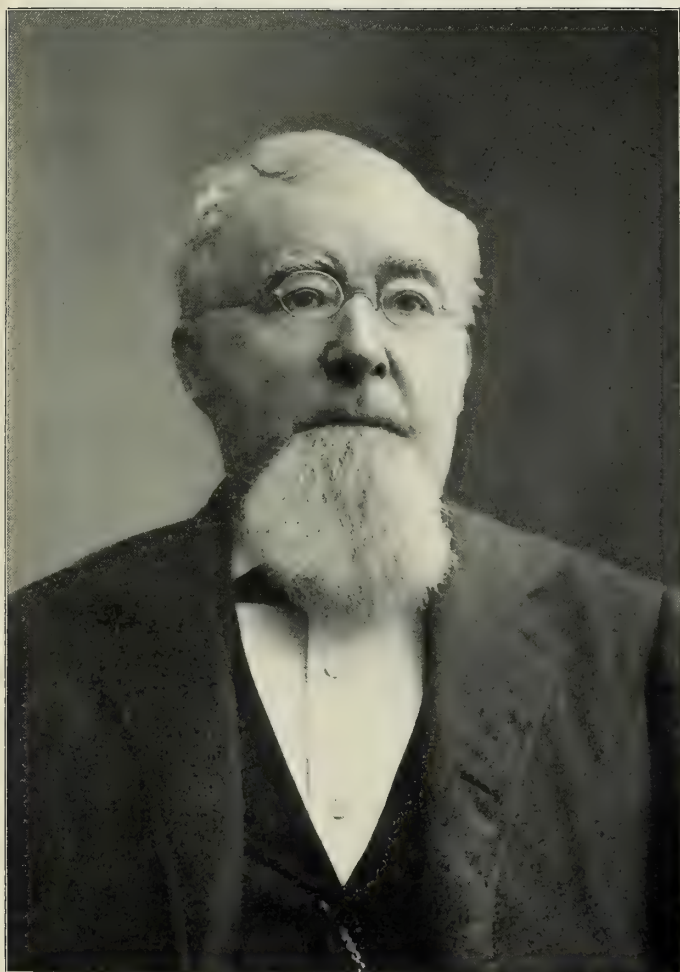
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#### PETER J. HERDKLOTZ.

The more recent settlers of the United States represent many different nationalities, but in earlier times the emigration to this part of the country was made by the English, French, and somewhat later by the Germans. The French emigration, from Canada, was not large enough to permanently affect the blood of the people, and therefore the English and the Germans are the two great races from which the pioneers of Illinois largely sprang, especially in the northern portion of the State. It is uncertain as yet who was the first German settler of McHenry County, but investigations now in progress indicate that it was Samuel Gillian, a pioneer German who settled in Algonquin Township, Nov. 18, 1834.

The first pioneer settler on Queen Anne Prairie was Peter J. Herdklotz, now a retired farmer of Woodstock. He was born in Alsace, Canton of Sultz, Village of Drachenbronn, Feb.





*P. J. HerdKlotz*





*Catharina Herold Klobz*





27, 1820, son of Michael and Sarah (Smith) Herdklotz. The Alsatian founder of the family came from Switzerland at an early period. The Herdklotz family had been farmers for generations, and for many years had owned and lived on the same farm. In the days of Michael, the grandfather of Peter J., the farm was of considerable size, but in the days of Michael (2), the father, it had been reduced by divisions until it numbered but twenty acres, although it was very productive and furnished abundant supplies for the family. Michael, the grandfather of Peter J., served in the old French army and participated in many battles, and received a prize for meritorious conduct.

Michael Herdklotz, the father of Peter J., was born in January, 1791. He remained on the homestead where his forefathers had lived for generations, and he and his wife were the parents of Michael, Jr., Peter J., Christina, Barbara, George and Henry. In May, 1839, he and Mrs. Herdklotz, with their four younger children, came to America, the two older sons, Michael and Peter J., having come over two years before. The family landed in New York and went thence to Chicago, where they arrived Aug. 5, and immediately came to Greenwood, McHenry County, where Michael, Sr., soon afterwards bought 200 acres of unimproved land of the United States Government, which had previously been selected by his sons, Michael and Peter J. This land came into market, Sept. 1, 1839, and was sold at \$1.25 per acre. Mr. Herdklotz built a comfortable log house, and at first used a fireplace, but several years later he purchased a cook-stove in Chicago with which the following interesting incident is connected: After arriving at home with his purchase, Mr. Herdklotz found that he lacked two joints of stove-piping of having enough to set up his stove. Shortly afterwards he sent to Chicago by Jacob Eckert, an early Alsatian emigrant, for the desired quantity of piping, giving him \$1.50 for its purchase. In Chicago Mr. Eckert met with an agent for a Buffalo German newspaper, and being unable to resist the inducements, subscribed for the paper and paid out the \$1.50, for which he obtained a sample copy of the paper and one year's subscription. Returning to the Herdklotz home, after his long trip, he had a sample copy of the newspaper

but no stove-pipe, which was a bitter disappointment to the family, who had to await another opportunity of sending to Chicago before their cook-stove could be made to serve the purpose for which it was designed. Michael Herdklotz was about forty-eight years old when he settled on Queen Anne Prairie, and, with the help of his industrious and hard-working sons, cleared up and improved the farm, eighty acres of it being originally timber and the remainder prairie land. Mr. and Mrs. Herdklotz were both members of the German Presbyterian church. Mr. Herdklotz died July 5, 1854, being killed by lightning.

Peter J. Herdklotz was reared on the farm and received a common-school education in Alsace, where he attended school seven years. He came to America with his older brother, Michael, in 1837, two years in advance of his father and the family. The brothers sailed from Havre, France, in a sailing vessel, the "Charles Carroll," and made the voyage to New York in thirty days, arriving May 2d. The brothers had divided their money on arriving in New York, and Michael went to Rome, N. Y., by way of the Erie Canal, and secured farm-work at \$6 per month and his board. Peter J. secured work with a milkman at \$3 per month and board. He carefully saved his money with true German economy and, at the end of the year, had saved his full earnings, \$36. The brothers then came to Chicago, where they arrived July 11, 1838. The closing of the Black Hawk War at this time had thrown a large amount of lands in Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa open to settlement, which was attracting many emigrants. Chicago, then a small frontier village, had no buildings on the north side, and old Fort Dearborn was occupied by United States troops. Prairie schooners, which were large wagons, many of them drawn by eight yoke of oxen, were frequently mired down to the axles in the streets of the now famous western metropolis. The brothers together bought a yoke of oxen and a wagon for \$60 and started for McHenry County. They were four and one-half days making the trip from Chicago to Queen Anne Prairie. They camped out at night and on the way found a few pioneer settlers from Virginia who were hospitable and ready to render them any assistance in their power. It was characteristic of the pioneer Americans to assist

the early German emigrant settlers in every possible way. No one was turned away from the door of the American pioneer. He was always ready to share his humble home with any one, stranger or friend, and his cheery "set up, stranger, and help yourself," has brought cheer to many a hungry and wayworn traveler, whether he was an American or foreigner, it mattered not.

The brothers took up land on the edge of Queen Anne Prairie, Greenwood Township, and set to work immediately to prepare a home for the family, who were yet in distant Alsace. They were the first Germans to settle in that locality, but soon found friends among the settlers from Virginia. They worked for the neighbors for a while, and finally hired two yoke of oxen and broke twenty-five acres of prairie sod and sowed seven acres of wheat. They also planted and raised a quantity of corn and potatoes; so that, when the family arrived, they had something to live upon, and after this there was no lack of provisions. Wages were only fifty cents per day, but Peter J. and his brother worked faithfully and felt encouraged, as they were getting along well and making a home in a free country. They worked faithfully, and previous to the father's death in 1854, the Herdklotz family owned 400 acres of land.

On January 29, 1848, Peter J. Herdklotz married, in Greenwood township, Catherine Sondericker, daughter of Henry and Charlotte (Senger) Sondericker. For two years after their marriage they lived with his father's family. Mr. Herdklotz built a log house on a part of the farm, and when the estate was divided, received as his share 133 acres, to which he made additions until he owned 200 acres. Later he sold part of the farm and now owns 180, which is one of the best farms in Greenwood township. Mr. Herdklotz has worked very hard and endured all the hardships of pioneer life. He has prospered by his own efforts and become a well-to-do citizen.

Mr. and Mrs. Herdklotz were the parents of the following children: Catherine, Margaret, Christina, Eliza, Peter H., Sarah C. (who died when about thirty years of age, a married woman, leaving two children), and Emma Sophia. Mr. Herdklotz is a member of the German Presbyterian church, where he was and elder for many years. Mrs. Herd-

klotz was also a member of the same church. They assisted in establishing the church in Greenwood Township, and Mr. Herdklotz' mother gave one-half acre of land from the old homestead for a church lot. Mr. Herdklotz voted for William Henry Harrison and Abraham Lincoln, and kept within the ranks of the Republican party until Cleveland's first election, when he voted the Democratic ticket. He served the public as Road Commissioner for fifteen years. Mrs. Herdklotz died May 24, 1893, and Mr. Herdklotz now resides with his children in Woodstock, where he has recently recovered from a severe spell of sickness. He also had cataracts form over both eyes, rendering him blind, but fortunately he has recently had them removed, so that his sight has been fully restored. Mr. Herdklotz is a fine example of the German pioneer, straight-forward, honest, persevering, and in all respects a man of sterling worth. From the early German settlers have descended many of our best people, whose descendants are now rapidly blending with the American people and adding to their blood the strength of an original and sterling race.

#### LEWIS F. HOWARD.

Lewis F. Howard, farmer of Greenwood, McHenry County, and early settler of Queen Ann Prairie, was born Feb. 14, 1821, at Walpole, Cheshire county, N. H., the son of William and Betsy Ann (Fay) Howard. William Howard was of Puritan-English stock, whose ancestors came to Massachusetts about the time of the founding of that colony. He was born in Massachusetts, the son of Pitt Howard, who was a soldier of the Revolution. He was twice married, the children by the first marriage being Rebecca, Fannie, Betsy, John, William, and one other whose name is not remembered. Pitt Howard was a carpenter by trade, and a manufacturer of wooden ware, and also farmed in a small way. During the Revolutionary War he served under General Washington and General Israel Putnam. He lived to be eighty years old, dying at his home in Massachusetts. His son William was married at Walpole, N. H., to Betsy Ann Fay, who was born at Walpole, the daughter of Joseph and Fannie (Graves) Fay.

Joseph Fay was a son of an officer of the Revolution, whom he accompanied to the field,



first as a waiter, and whom he saw shot from his horse in battle. Later, he enlisted when only about fourteen years of age, and bore a musket in the cause of his country under Gen. Anthony Wayne. After the war he became a captain in the State militia, and during his life was known as Captain Fay. He was a prominent citizen and served, for a time, as Selectman of his town.

William Howard was a soldier in the War of 1812, but being disqualified for carrying arms by a deformed finger, served as a teamster. He was present at the battle of Plattsburg. After marriage he settled at Walpole, N. H., which, except for a few years spent at Putney, Vt., continued to be his home until 1856, when he came to Greenwood, McHenry County, Ill. Here he remained until the death of his wife, which occurred in 1860. He then spent some time with his son, Lewis F., when he went to Keene, N. H., where, 10 years later, he died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Dr. Hill, who was a physician, at the age of eighty years. The children of William Howard and wife were: Harriet, Lewis F., Sarah, Rebecca and William. The father was an industrious and thrifty citizen, but suffered some serious losses from endorsing paper for other people. Originally a Democrat, he became a Republican on the introduction of the slavery issue into politics. He lived in the village of Greenwood a number of years, where he owned a pleasant home.

Lewis F. Howard, the immediate subject of this sketch, received while young, a limited common-school education in the meantime being brought up to the life of a farmer. On April 10, 1845, he was married at his native place of Walpole, N. H., to Alzina A. Ash, who was born at Walpole, June 22, 1827, the daughter of John and Lucinda (Fuller) Ash. John Ash, the father, was of Scotch descent, and belonged to an old family of Putney, Vt., where he was born in 1799. During the colonial period the family had lived in Massachusetts. He was a shoemaker by trade, and was married at Athens, Vt., to Lucinda Fuller, who was born there in 1800. The founder of the family came over to Plymouth in the Mayflower in 1620. The father of Mrs. Ash was a justice of the peace at Athens, Vt., for forty years, and lived to be ninety-five years old. He was a resident of Athens at the time of

Indian troubles in that region. He married for his second wife a widow lady named Pitts, and they had the following named children: Damaris, Daniel and Henry. John Ash settled at Putney, Vt., but in his later years removed to Walpole, N. H., where he passed the remainder of his days, dying at the age of about fifty years. His children were: Lucinda, Laura, Mary, Alzina A. (Mrs. Lewis F. Howard), Damaris, Emily and Henry. After his death, his widow removed to Fort Wayne, Ind., where she died aged about seventy-five years.

After his marriage to Alzina Ash, Lewis F. Howard settled near Walpole, N. H., on a farm in the woods, remaining five years, when he moved to Putney, Vt. In 1855 he came to McHenry county, Ill., and settled on the farm in Greenwood Township, consisting of 137 acres, which he improved and now occupies. The children born to himself and wife were: Sarah, Lucinda, Henry, Ada and Allen, all of whom received good educations. The daughters Sarah and Lucinda were educated at Todd Seminary, Woodstock, and each engaged in teaching. Sarah married Henry Freeman, who served three years in the Civil War, and they reside in Greenwood Township, where they are well-to-do farmers. They have five children. Lucinda married Charles Ercanbrick, of Alden Township, and they are now residents of California. They have two children. Henry married Harriet Pierce; they reside at Spokane, Wash., where they have two children. Ada married Myron Goddard, a farmer and stock dealer, and resides in Greenwood Township, having a family of two children. Allen married Mary Dygert; they have one child and reside at Moscow, Idaho, where he is a grain dealer.

Mr. Howard (Lewis F.) was originally a Democrat, but on the formation of the Republican party, identified himself with that party. Both he and Mrs. Howard are members of the Presbyterian church at Greenwood. Mr. Howard is a man of remarkably abstemious habits, never having been accustomed to indulge in the use of liquors or tobacco in any form. Indeed, it is said that a glass of beer or of spirituous liquor has never passed his lips. High-minded and scrupulously honest in character, he enjoys, in a high degree, the confidence and respect of the community in which he has resided for nearly half a cen-

tury. By industry and economy he has added to his real estate, and has been eminently successful in his career as a farmer.

#### NATHAN B. HELM.

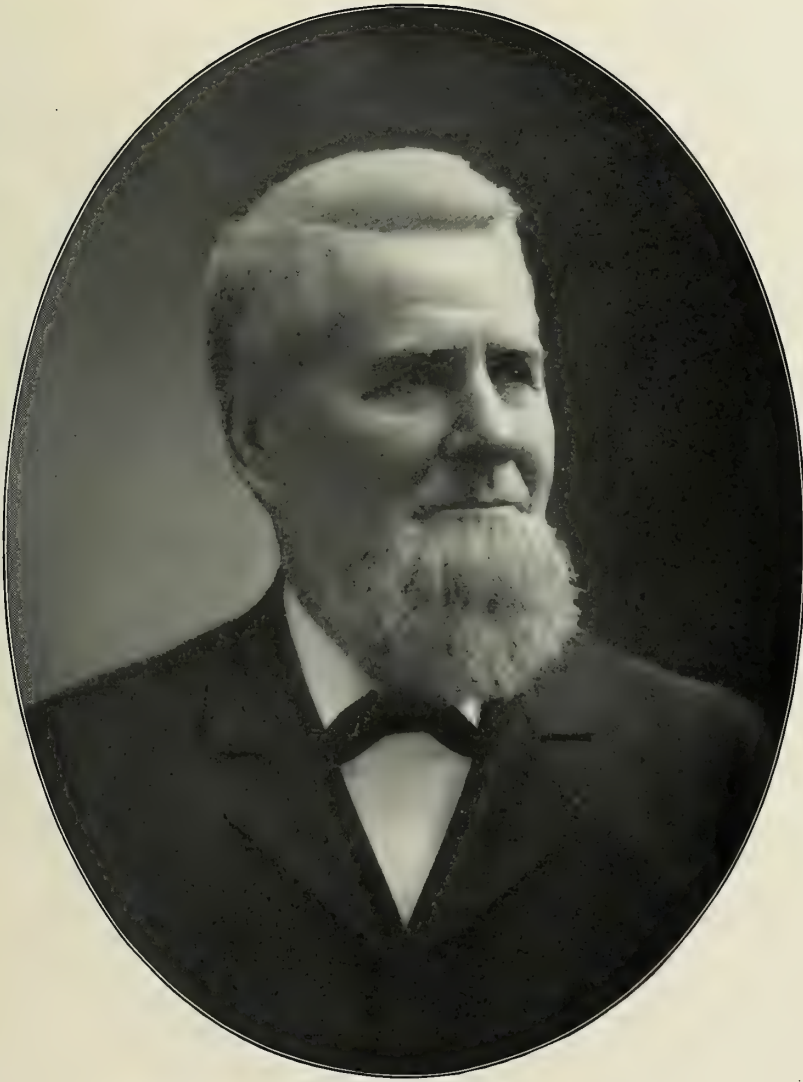
The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch is rightly entitled to rank as one of the most notable residents of McHenry county, not only by virtue of his residence here of over half a century, but on account of his long and prominent identification with its business and manufacturing interests. Springing from mixed German and Holland-Dutch ancestry, there is a well-founded tradition that there is also a vein of French-Huguenot blood in the family, as we have the authority of the records of the old Holland-Dutch church of Kingston, N. Y., to the effect that the French-Huguenots intermarried with the early Holland-Dutch families of that locality. The records of this church are of great historic value, in view of the fact that, during the colonial period, this was the only church between New York City and Albany, in which a record of marriages, births and baptisms was kept; and for a considerable extent of country the early settlers made it the depository of records relating to events of this character. A few points compiled from these quaint records with a flavor of the ancient days, when Rip Van Winkle rolled ten-pins with the shades of Hendrik Hudson's sailors in the Catskill Mountains, are worthy of reproduction here.

The first entry regarding the Helm family in these records, is of the date of June 4, 1721, recording the baptism of Katrine, daughter of Zyman and Anna (Scheever) Helm, followed on Nov. 1, 1724, by a record of the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth, to Symen Helm and Anna-tien Schever, his wife: Witnesses, Machil Helm and Elizabeth Sheyer. It is assumed that the parents of these two children were the same, although the names were spelled differently, as the editor of the records suggests that the old Holland-Dutch Dominies spelled names phonetically and often arbitrarily. The first marriage in the Helm family on record is that of Peiter Helm, a young man, and Elizabeth Schinkel, a young woman, on Nov. 5, 1725, both born in Germany and residents of Kingston, N. Y. From that time on there are a number of similar records in this old church record.

Peter Helm, the grandfather of Nathan B., was a native of Orange County, N. Y., the next south of Kingston, and is believed to have been of the same stock as those mentioned in the Kingston church records. He was a farmer in his native county, and married a Miss Perine, who was of French-Huguenot ancestry. Both were members of the Dutch Presbyterian church, of which he was an elder. Their children were: James, Peter S., Perine, Abraham, James, Katharine, Sophia and Sally. Peter died at the home of his son, James, in Tompkins County, N. Y., aged about seventy-years.. His wife died at the age of seventy-five. There were other lines of the Helm family, at an early day, with which the Kingston branch had no connection. One of these was of Swedish origin, the head of which, Capt. Israel Helm, belonged to the old Swede Colony which settled on the Delaware River, where he lived in 1659, before the landing of William Penn. He was a prominent trader among the Indians, an Indian interpreter, and a Justice of the Upland court. There was also a Virginia family of this name, from which sprang the Kentucky branch. Of the latter branch were John Larue Helm, who was a prominent politician of Kentucky and elected Governor in 1867, and Ben Hardin Helm, a Confederate General during the Civil War. These were descendants of Major Benjamin and Capt. Leonard Helm, of Fauquier county, Va., who was a noted Indian fighter.

The branch of the family with which we have to deal was founded deep in the old Holland-Dutch Colony in New York, and its members were prominent in the history of that State, furnishing many patriot soldiers during the War of the Revolution. One of these, Brewster Helm, was a corporal in Capt. Scott Marvin's Company, in 1776, in which Obadiah Helm was a private, while Abraham Helm was a private in Captain Duprie's Company. Charles W. Helm was a private in the Second Regiment Line Artillery, while others of the name from New York were Daniel, Jane, Peter and Peter, Sr.—the last two being privates of the English Regiment.

James Helm, the oldest son of Peter Helm, and father of the principal subject of this sketch, was a native of Orange County, N. Y., born Feb. 26, 1796, became a farmer and served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He married,



*Nathaniel B. Helm.*







*Mrs Marilla Helm*





March 5, 1823, Catherine Van Auken, who was born in Orange County, N. Y., Aug. 25, 1799, the daughter of Jacob Van Auken, who was of Holland-Dutch stock. James settled on a farm in Cayuga County, N. Y., but, a year later, moved to Tompkins County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm of eighty acres, and remained about twenty years. In the spring of 1846 he moved to McHenry County, Ill., by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo and thence by the lakes to Kenosha, Wis., where he arrived with his family May 10, 1846. Arriving in McHenry County, he settled in Alden Township on a 40-acre tract of timber land, on which a small clearing had been made. Assisted by his sons he finished clearing up his land, improved and added to it until he owned a farm of 115 acres, where he died aged about seventy-five years. His wife died on the same farm, aged eighty-four. This homestead is still in possession of the Helm family. Mr. Helm was one of the founders of the Presbyterian church in Alden Township, of which he was an elder for many years. His wife was a member of the same church. They were parents of the following children: Eliza J., Nathan B., James H., Louisa, Sarah A., Nelson, Benjamin and Amanda. The son Nelson enlisted in Company C, Ninety-fifth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, but died a year later at Lake Providence, La. Another son, Benjamin, died in infancy.

Nathan B. Helm, whose name heads this sketch, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., Feb. 9, 1825, and received a common-school education while attending the district school during the winter months and working on the farm in the summer until he was fifteen years old. He then engaged in farm work at nine dollars per month until he was twenty-one years old. He then came west with his father's family—in fact, was largely instrumental in bringing about their removal, as he had already decided to try his fortunes in the West. He remained with his father, whom he assisted to clear up and pay for his farm, until he was in his twenty-fifth year, when, on Oct. 10, 1849, he was married in Winnebago County, Wis., to Marila Hinman, who was born in Berkshire County, Mass., 1832, the daughter of Seymour and Diademia (King) Hinman. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Helm settled on an 80-acre tract of unimproved land in Alden Township with

the typical log house on it, for which he paid \$325. He improved his land and, aided by his industrious wife, added to it until he had a farm of 133 acres, upon which he erected a good frame house and barn, making a comfortable home. In February, 1872, Mr. Helm removed to Harvard, where, in company with his son-in-law Charles E. Hunt, he engaged in the hardware business. In this he continued until 1895, when he embarked in the agricultural implement trade, which he subsequently exchanged for the manufacture of hardware specialties. The present title of the firm is Hunt, Helm, Ferris & Co. and they have established a large and lucrative business, employing seventy-five to one hundred men. Mr. Helm is a self-made man, and owes his success chiefly to his own efforts, aided by his devoted and faithful wife. He and his wife are members of the Methodist church in Alden Township, with which they united at an early age, and in which he was the first class-leader, and Sunday School Superintendent for ten years. He assisted to build the first church edifice here, but before this period there was a Methodist class, of which Benjamin Easton was the leader.

Originally a Free-Soiler or Abolitionist, Mr. Helm co-operated in the organization of the Republican party and was a zealous supporter of the Union cause during the Civil War. He is an uncompromising advocate of the cause of temperance, and of late years has co-operated with the Prohibition party, voting for the first candidate of that party for President. As evidence of his consistency of character, it is said that he has never tasted spirituous liquor of any sort or used tobacco in any form. He is public-spirited and assisted in the erection of the first school house in his district in Alden Township; has served as School Director, was Justice of the Peace for his township for eight years, and has been Mayor of Harvard for two years. He was also a member of the building committee which had charge of the erection of the Methodist church at Harvard, and was one of the most liberal contributors to its cost, amounting in the aggregate to \$18,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Helm have one daughter, Lucelia I., who was married Oct. 11, 1871, to Charles E. Hunt, present head of the firm of Hunt, Helm & Ferris, manufacturers of har-

ware specialties, Harvard, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have two children, Lora B. and Elzo B. The former married Blake B. Bell, a resident of Harvard, and they have one child, Gladys M. Elzo B. married Hollie Bee.

James Harvey Helm, a brother of Nathan B., crossed the plains to California with an ox-team in 1850, and engaged in gold mining for several years. He then embarked in the banking business, but died in the city of San Francisco, a few years since, aged about seventy-three years, leaving a family.

The Hinman family, to which Mrs. Nathan B. Helm belongs, is of New England Puritan stock, descended from Edward Hinman, who settled in Stratford, Conn., in 1650. There is a tradition that Sugart Hinman, who is described as over six feet high and a man of powerful frame, was Sergeant-at-Arms of the body guard of King Charles I., and escaped to America during the Cromwell revolution. There were thirteen of the name of Hinman from the town of Woodbury, Conn., who held commissions in the army during the Revolution, and rendered efficient service for their country. Sergeant Edward Hinman, who was the first owner of the old tide-water mill between Stratford and Bridgeport, Conn., offered his services to Governor Stuyvesant, of New York, to fight the Indians. He was the father of eight children, from whom all the Hinmans of old American stock are descended. The family was prominent in colonial times, and its members served in all the colonial wars, as well as in the War of the Revolution and those of a later period. Capt. Elisha Hinman was commander of the patriot ship Alfred, which sailed out of New London harbor against the British. He was also Lieutenant in the first naval expedition fitted out at New London, Conn., by authority of Congress, in January, 1776, in that expedition having command of a sloop which brought back to New London many pieces of ordnance and a large amount of naval stores captured from the British. He afterwards had command of the Cabot, a continental brig, and succeeded John Paul Jones in command of the sloop Alfred; was captured and taken to England, whence, escaping to France, he returned home and engaged in private enterprises. He had a reputation as one of the most successful naval officers of the Revolution.

Enoch and Sarah (Crane) Hinman, the grand-

parents of Mrs. Helm, lived in Berkshire county, Mass., where Seymour Hinman, her father, was born Jan. 18, 1797. He became an active business man, owning a marble quarry at West Stockbridge, Mass., which he operated for a number of years. He married Nov. 30, 1819, Diademia King, who was born in Connecticut, Sept. 28, 1801, the daughter of Joseph and Almira (Wood) King, members of old colonial families. Mr. and Mrs. Seymour had the following named children, all born in Stockbridge, Mass.: Mary Ann, born Sept. 9, 1820; Lorenzo, born Jan. 4, 1823; Selden, born April 18, 1827; Marilla (Mrs. N. B. Helm), born Jan. 3, 1832; Lanson, born April 3, 1834; Albert, born June 2, 1840. About 1842 Seymour Hinman moved to Utica, N. Y., where he engaged in mercantile business, but later moved to Victor, Ontario, remaining only a short time, when, in 1846, he came west, settling in Linn Township, Walworth County, Wis. Here he bought eighty acres of land, built a log cabin, but soon after sold out and removing to Winnebago County, Wis., bought 350 acres of government land, which he improved into a fine farm, upon which he spent the remainder of his days, dying there Nov. 22, 1864. In his later years he was a stanch Republican and a zealous friend of the Union during the Civil War.

#### JOHN C. HALLISY.

John C. Hallisy is a prominent citizen and practical farmer of Hartland Township, McHenry County, and son of a pioneer of the same name, whose sketch is given farther on in this article. John C., Jr. was born on the Hallisy homestead, in Hartland Township, March 8, 1848, received a common-school education, and was trained as a farmer. He was married May 22, 1879, to Bridget Wallace, born in McHenry County, March 6, 1859, the daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Hogan) Wallace. Thomas Hogan was a native of County Kilkenny, Ireland, who came to America in early manhood and married Margaret Hogan, the daughter of Frank and Mary Hogan, also a native of Ireland, who had come to America with friends. Mr. Wallace settled on a farm where he spent the remainder of his life. Their children were: Kate, Mary, Bridget, Margaret, Annie and James. The latter died while a young man.



Mr. Hallisy settled on what is known as the old Hallisy homestead—a fine farm of 312 acres, which had been improved by his father—where he erected a good frame house and other farm buildings. He is a Democrat in politics, has held the office of Road Commissioner and School Director, and is prominent in local affairs and a factor in public improvements. In religious belief the family are Roman Catholics and have been among the staunch supporters of the Hartland church, the oldest organization of that denomination west of Chicago.

The children of John C. and Bridget Hallisy are: John F., Thomas J., Mary Ellen, Margaret A., Florence D., Edward R., and two others who died young. The surviving children are receiving an excellent education, and the entire family rank among the best citizens of McHenry County. A fourth son, George Vincent, was born to Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hallisy March 29, 1903.

John Hallisy, Sr., was born about 1806, in County Cork, Ireland, the son of John and Hannah (Corcoran) Hallisy, and was brought up to the life of a farmer in his native country. He had three brothers: Timothy, Cornelius, and Daniel. About 1833 he came to America, first settling at Newark, N. J., where, in 1838, he married Mary Welch, who was born at Watergrass Hill, County Cork, Ireland, Nov. 1, 1801, the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Bowen) Welch. In 1841 they removed to McHenry County, Ill., where they settled on timberland which Mr. Hallisy purchased from the Government, built a log-cabin and improved a farm, finally becoming the owner of 400 acres. Mr. Hallisy is described by his contemporaries as a man of much force of character. He was one of the founders and a liberal supporter of the old Catholic church at Hartland, assisting to build both the original church edifice and the fine structure which has succeeded it. Mr. and Mrs. Hallisy were the parents of five children: Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, Annie and John C., whose name heads this article. Hannah married William Deneen; Elizabeth, Nicholas Grady; Mary, Timothy Deneen, and Annie, Roderick Cooney, and belong to the respected families of McHenry County. Mr. Hallisy, the father, died Oct. 6, 1874, and his wife, Mary (Welch) Hallisy, August 20, 1899, in her ninety-eighth year—her life having

covered nearly the whole of the nineteenth century. The following graceful tribute to the memory of this remarkable woman, published soon after her death, appeared in the columns of "The New World," of Chicago:

"MRS. JOHN HALLISY.—A connecting link between two centuries—born when the present century was not a year old and dying when it was just within a year of its close—the late Mrs. Mary Hallisy, a pioneer of McHenry County, was a remarkable woman, whose long life teemed with experiences such as fall to the lot of very few. A splendid type of the Irish nation of the old school—a type, by the way, which is well nigh extinct—a devoted wife, a loving mother, a devoted friend; true to her God, her country and her kind, she was an honor to the race whose virtues she inherited in full measure, exemplifying, as she did, by precept and example, the grand, ennobling qualities of heart and head which, in the centuries gone by, made the Irish women pre-eminent above all others.

"Mrs. Hallisy was born in 1801 at Watergrasshill, in County Cork, Ireland, a place made famous in literature by the Rev. Francis Mahoney (Father Prout), the immortal author of 'The Bells of Shandon.' The scenes of her childhood are among the most beautiful and historic in Ireland. She spent her girlhood where Spenser wrote his 'Faerie Queen,' growing familiar with and loving rare and matchless snatches of landscape that have furnished inspiration for a long line of poets. Among her immediate friends in her young days were John Francis McGuire and Denny Land, poet and patriot. The scenes of her childhood, as well as her early education, moulded her character. In her girlhood the language of the English invader had not yet driven out the grand old Celtic tongue. Irishmen still spoke in the accents that were heard at Tara, and still further back around the Druidical altars in the almost legendary days of their country's glory. Mrs. Hallisy spoke and read the Celtic language fluently. She was a veritable storehouse of Irish folk-lore, and was familiar with the most stirring and dramatic events in Irish story, and loved to speak of them. Mrs. Hallisy was also a great lover of ancient Irish music. She remembered many fragments of minstrelsy that have never been published, and often entertained her friends with old bardic melodies. Her memory was remarkable. From her parents she had learned of the terrible persecutions in Ireland during 1798 and was most vivid in describing the English atrocities during that period. She told many stories about the Union and the patriots of that day—Grattan, Floyd, Charlemont and the leaders of the United Irishmen who succeeded the Parliamentarians. Her memory included the stirring times of Napoleon, when Ireland's hopes were high in expectation of deliverance by France; ranged



over the O'Connell, Father Matthew and '48 movements, and included—and these were not the least interesting of her reminiscences—the sacrifices and struggles of the early pioneers on the prairies of Illinois. With all her experiences and interesting memories, however, her life was as calm and placid as 'the pleasant waters of the 'River Lee,' near which she played in childhood. Every succeeding day was like that which went before. She performed her duties to her religion, her family and her friends, and her length of days, if they could be explained at all, might be attributed to the fact that she never permitted an obligation to remain unfulfilled. She was generous to the church and the poor, and was always liberal to every Irish movement that appealed to her purse. Indeed, her patriotic devotion to the land of her birth was one of the distinguishing characteristics. Exile only intensified it. As the chosen people of old wept by the waters of Babylon, she, too, mourned the fate of her kindred by the Lee and Blackwater. In the dark days of famine in the old land, she gave without stint to the relief of the sufferers."

#### THEODORE HAMER.

The career of him whose name heads this biography illustrates most forcibly the possibilities that are open in this country to earnest, persevering young men, who have the courage of their convictions, and the determination to be the architects of their own fortunes. It proves that neither wealth, social position nor influential friends, are indispensable to the attainment of success. Coming to America a poor German boy, unable to speak the English language, Theodore Hamer was obliged to begin at the lowest round of farm labor and endure the hard grind of toil in order to gain, as best he could, an education to fit himself for a better position in life. Frank and honest, with a friendly disposition, always performing his work in a cheerful manner, he won many firm friends while employed among strangers. A native of Germany, he was born Feb. 9, 1869, in the village of Elmshorn, in Schleswig-Holstein, near Hamburg, the son of Claus H. and Anna (Giese) Hamer.

Claus H. Hamer was a shoemaker and later engaged in the dairy business. He came to America in 1885 and now resides at Park Ridge, Cook County, Ill. Mrs. Hamer died in Germany and he married a second time in that country to Kathrina Schluetter, who died at Park Ridge, Ill., May 22, 1902. The children by the first marriage were Theodore and a daugh-

ter Mary, who married Charles Woodhams. Of the second marriage there are Henry F., Annie and Helene.

Theodore Hamer received a good common-school education in the fatherland and came to America when fourteen years of age, sailing from Hamburg, in May, 1883, and after a short voyage, arrived in New York. He came directly to Chicago, and immediately engaged to work for a German truck gardener in Jefferson Township, Cook County, remaining with him for six months and attending school at Park Ridge during the winter. In the spring of 1885 his father came to America, and they together rented land for one year. During this time Mr. Hamer had attended school at Park Ridge two winters. The farming operations with his father proved to be unprofitable and young Hamer determined to work independently for himself, and in July, 1886, walked from Park Ridge to Ridgefield in search of work. When walking through Dorr Township, he met with Judge M. L. Joslyn and applied to him for work. The Judge took him to the farm of his son, David R. Joslyn, who received him very kindly and entertained him in a hospitable manner. It was in the month of July and he readily obtained work with Mr. Joslyn, remaining with him six months, after which he engaged with George Shearer, a prominent farmer of Dorr Township, and worked for him and his family until 1889, Mr. Shearer having died in March, 1888. By strict economy young Hamer saved some money and, having a keen desire to better his education, attended the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind., for three terms, receiving his diploma in November, 1889. The next spring his health being somewhat impaired from severe application to study, he resumed farm work in Dorr Township, with Deacon Button, remaining with him four months. He next found employment with Colonel Avery, then Clerk of McHenry County, who soon saw Mr. Hamer's abilities and, at the suggestion of Mrs. Avery, tendered him a position in the County Clerk's office. By diligence, ability and close application to business, Mr. Hamer soon proved an able assistant and was shortly afterwards made Deputy County Clerk, a position he has since filled in an efficient and satisfactory manner. He continued to live in Colonel Avery's family until June 22, 1892, when he married at Ridgefield, Ill.,



*Theo. Hamer*





Emma Shearer, born in Dorr Township, April 20, 1869, daughter of George and Mary (Hunter) Shearer.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamer settled in Woodstock, where he bought a pleasant residence on Tryon Street. In political opinion Mr. Hamer is a staunch Republican. Fraternally he is a Mason, a member of the Woodstock Commandery, K. T., and also a member of the I. O. O. F., having passed all the chairs including Noble Grand, and has been Deputy of his Lodge several years and a representative to the Grand Lodge of the State. He is also a member of the Woodmen and Foresters. Mrs. Hamer is a member of the Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Hamer have been the parents of three children named in the order of their birth as follows: Mary, born March 17, 1893, died October, 1898; Raymond S., born June 8, 1894, and Clarence E., born Aug. 13, 1899. Mr. Hamer has proved himself a man of sterling worth. His education has been largely self-acquired and he is a self-made man in the fullest sense of the term. He has passed some of his best years in the service of McHenry County, and has been faithful to all duties. In his career there is much worthy of emulation. What he has accomplished has been by steady application in the line of a persistent purpose. He has surmounted many obstacles, and today, while still in the prime of vigorous manhood, holds a place among the representative men of his county.

#### CHARLES L. HALDEMAN.

Charles L. Haldeman, retired farmer and respected citizen of Richmond Township, McHenry County, was born on a farm in Fayette County, Penn., March 27, 1844, the son of John and Catherine (Lichty) Haldeman. The Haldeman family are of German descent, their ancestors having settled in Pennsylvania in colonial times, and the grandfather of Charles L. was a farmer in Fayette County. His son John, who became the father of Charles L., was born in 1808, received a common-school education and most of his life was passed in Fayette County. He grew up to be a farmer, to which he later added the trade of a blacksmith, pursuing his dual occupation in his native county near the Virginia (now West Virginia) State line, where he owned a farm. Here Mr. Haldeman married Catherine Lichty, and they reared

a family of fifteen sturdy Dutch children—nine boys and six girls, viz.: Alexander, Dennis, John, Elijah, Joseph, Charles, Jeremiah, Marshall and Melton—the sons—and the daughters, Julia, Nancy, Sarah, Mary, Belle and Catherine. Of the sons, three served as soldiers of the Union during the Civil War: John, who enlisted in the Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for three years, then re-enlisted, was taken prisoner in November, 1864, and confined at Cahaba, Ala., until exchanged in March, 1865; Joseph, enlisted in the Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and died in the service after having served fifteen months; and Jeremiah, served in the Ninety-fifth Illinois from 1863 to the close of the war—each of them seeing much hard service and participating in many important battles. In 1855, Mr. Haldeman came to McHenry County, Ill., first locating in Spring Grove, where he worked at his trade as a blacksmith and, in the meantime about 1857, bought a small farm in Richmond Township, upon which he located with his family and engaged in farming. This he sold and then bought eighty acres, which he improved, and here spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of seventy-two years. Mr. Haldeman was a hard worker, and realized good returns from his labor. In public affairs he manifested a keen interest, and in politics affiliated with the Republican party. He was a consistent Christian, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Charles L. Haldeman, the immediate subject of this sketch, born on his father's farm in Fayette County, Penn., March 27, 1844, was about ten years of age when his parents moved to McHenry County. Here he received a common-school education in the public schools of his neighborhood, and early began work on the farm, assisting his father until he had passed his thirtieth year. On Sept. 10, 1874, he was married at Lake Geneva, Ill., to Jane Walker, who was born in Oneida County, N. Y., Jan. 6, 1848. Miss Walker had received a good education in the public schools of her locality and in the graded school at Forest Port, N. Y., and, at the age of fifteen, began teaching in a private school. She later taught in the district schools of Oneida County, N. Y., and then, coming to McHenry County, Ill., in October, 1869, where her sister Mrs. Sanborn resided, she engaged in teaching for two years in Richmond Town-

ship, and afterwards for the same period in Hebron Township. Soon after his marriage Mr. Haldeman purchased a 70-acre farm, in Richmond Township, which he improved. Later, having sold this he bought 160 acres two miles north of his present location. In 1883 he purchased the farm which he now occupies, originally consisting of eighty acres, to which he has since made additions, until he is now the owner of 115 acres of well-improved land upon which he has erected substantial farm buildings. Recently he has retired from active farm work, and is now (1903) erecting for himself a handsome residence in Solon, which he will soon occupy. Mr. and Mrs. Haldeman have two children: Floy E. and Nellie. The former graduated from the Richmond High School in 1896, and has been engaged in teaching for the past five years, now being employed in the Keystone School, McHenry County; Nellie B., also a graduate of the same school in 1896, is married to Reuben R. Turner.

Mr. Haldeman takes a lively interest in farming, keeping himself well posted upon progressive movements in his line. In all his enterprises he has the sympathy and co-operation of his wife. They are well known throughout the county, and have many warm friends. As a Republican he is influential in local politics. He is a man of solid worth and irreproachable character.

The Walker family, of which Mrs. Haldeman is a member, is of good old American stock, the men being of a military bent. Her grandfather, Horace Walker, was a soldier of the War of 1812, and the son of a Revolutionary soldier. He followed the shoemaker's trade in Oneida County, N. Y. He was twice married, first to Olive Smilage, the daughter of a soldier who deserted from the British army during the war of the Revolution—being the only one of a party of ten deserters who succeeded in making his escape. After her death Mr. Walker married in Massachusetts, Mrs. Phoebe Smith, widow of William Smith. By his first marriage he had four children: Austin, Susan, Mary and Henry. By the second union there was but one child, James, who was a soldier in the Civil War. The second Mrs. Walker, however, had one child by her former marriage, Persis D. Smith, who is mentioned below. Returning to Oneida County, N. Y., after his second marriage Mr. Walker there spent the rest

of his life, dying there aged about seventy years.

Henry Walker, the father of Mrs. Charles L. Haldeman and Mrs. Sanborn, was born in Oneida County, N. Y., in September, 1826, and received only a limited education. In his boyhood he worked at teaming and farming. At the early age of seventeen he married Persis D. Smith, his step-mother's daughter, who was at that time but fifteen years of age. After marriage Henry Walker settled in his native county of Oneida, but in middle life engaged in the lumber business at Forest Port, which was interrupted by the outbreak of the Civil War. As a loyal Northerner, in 1862, he enlisted for three years in the Ninety-sixth New York Volunteer Infantry and, for a time, was stationed at Folly Island off South Carolina. After serving his country valiantly for two years, through an accident caused by a careless comrade, a ball passed through his right arm and side, from the effects of which he died in a hospital soon afterward, at the age of thirty-seven. He was a thorough Christian gentleman, and a man of abstemious habits. Asked by his captain one day on a march to carry some whisky for the men he replied: "No, sir, I never carried the stuff for myself, and I will not do it for others."

Mrs. Henry Walker was born in Connecticut in 1828, the daughter of William and Phoebe (Perrin) Smith. The latter has just been mentioned as the second wife of Horace Walker, the father of Henry Walker. Mrs. Henry Walker's father (William Smith), who belonged to a well-to-do New England family, was born in that section and died there. Losing her husband in middle life, Mrs. Walker supported and educated her children upon a small pension and what she could earn by needle-work. She was a woman of strong character and an active member of the Episcopal church. To Mr. and Mrs. Walker were born ten children. Of these Albert enlisted at eighteen years of age in the Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry in answer to the first call for volunteers at the beginning of the Civil War in April, 1861, and at the termination of his service of three months, re-enlisted and died in the service from typhoid fever. He is buried at Arlington Heights. The other children were: Laura, Sarah, Annie, Olive, Phoebe, Henry (died in infancy), Nellie, Jane (now Mrs. Charles L. Haldeman) and



*Mark Hickox*





Mary. Olive and Phoebe began teaching at an early age. Mrs. Henry Walker, their mother, died at Boonville, Oneida County, N. Y., aged about sixty-five years.

#### MARK HICKOX.

Mark Hickox (deceased), formerly of Woodstock, McHenry County, belonged to a class of pioneers now rapidly passing away. They were the hardy, energetic men who developed the county from a state of nature and made possible its pleasant and prosperous homes of to-day. To them their descendants and successors owe more than a debt of gratitude, as they spent their lives in the endeavor to improve the soil and develop its resources in order that those who came after them may enjoy better homes and better conditions of life. The memories of these pioneers should ever be kept green, and the records of their lives and their portraits, presenting evidence of their sturdy characters which enabled them to accomplish so much, should be preserved as a precious heirloom for their descendants and future generations—that others may know more of the men and women whose strenuous labors have brought to McHenry County so much of the prosperity of to-day.

Mr. Hickox was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., Dec. 25, 1819, the fourth of seven children of Isaac and Serena (Dwelly) Hickox. Isaac Hickox, the father of this family, was a native of Massachusetts and his wife of Rhode Island. They were married in 1806, when they settled in Onondaga County, N. Y., and were the parents of the following named children: Dwelly, Cornelia, Celia, Mark, Elsie, Alfred and Lois. In 1836 Mr. Hickox removed to Libertyville, then a part of McHenry County but now in Lake. Nine years later (1845) he located on a farm near the village of McHenry, in McHenry County, where he spent the remainder of his life. He improved his farm, which originally consisted of 160 acres, and he became one of the most extensive stock-raisers of that period. He was widely known and universally respected for his business enterprise and integrity of character. His wife died in 1859, and he in 1860, about eighteen months later.

Mark Hickox, the son of Isaac Hickox and subject of this sketch, was about seventeen years of age when his parents removed to Illinois. He received an ordinary common-school

education, and on reaching manhood engaged in business for himself as a farmer, to which he finally added that of a stock-raiser and dealer. On March 17, 1848, he was married at her father's home to Betsy A. Abbott, and afterwards settled on a tract of eighty acres of new land in Greenwood Township. This was in the "oak openings," and by industry and enterprise he transformed it into a good farm, by additions increasing his holding to 320 acres. In 1849, soon after the discovery of gold in California, he crossed the plains to the Pacific Coast, returning a year or so later in company with Dr. Brown of McHenry County. During the year 1851 he engaged quite extensively in the cattle trade, to which he finally added a large dairy business, in this branch taking rank as one of the most enterprising and progressive farmers of Greenwood Township. In his various enterprises Mr. Hickox was always greatly aided by his faithful and industrious wife. Mr. and Mrs. Hickox were members of the Universalist Church and generous supporters of the church of that denomination at Woodstock. In politics he was a Republican and a zealous supporter of the Union cause during the War of the Rebellion, contributing freely of his means to promote enlistments and to support the widows and orphan children of deceased soldiers.

Mr. and Mrs. Hickox were the parents of one daughter, Exa D., who was married Feb. 15, 1883, to Eddy W. Allen, of Hartland Township, who was born at Plato Center, Kane County, Ill., April 23, 1859, the son of William and Mary (Marble) Allen. Mr. Allen, the father, was a farmer of Plato Center, was a native of Vermont and of the same stock as Ethan Allen of Revolutionary fame. Eddy W. Allen received the usual common-school education of his period and locality, and after marriage settled on his father's farm of 240 acres. In 1890 he removed to Chicago, where he was engaged in the milk business with success for some time, but in 1896 returned to McHenry County, locating in Woodstock, where he now resides with his family. He and his wife are parents of the following named children: Bella, born Aug. 3, 1885; Clara B., born Nov. 14, 1890—both born in Hartland Township. Mr. Allen is a Republican in politics and served as Township Clerk of Hartland Township for several years; is also a member of the Masonic

fraternity and much respected in his community.

Mrs. Mark Hickox (nee Betsy A. Abbott, now deceased) was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, March 24, 1826, the daughter of Ebenezer and Nice (Pomeroy) Abbott. Her father was a native of Delaware County, Ohio, and her grandparents of Massachusetts. In 1823 Ebenezer Abbott settled in Mayfield Township, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and, in 1845, removed to Illinois, settling on a new farm in Greenwood Township, McHenry County. This land he improved, and died here at the age of about seventy years. He was a Methodist in religious belief, was an active church worker and officiated as class-leader. In politics he was an old line Whig. Mrs. Abbott lived to be about seventy-three years old. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott were: Triphenia, Juliet, Sophronia, George, Harriet, Homer, Betsy A. and Nancy. The Abbott family were of sterling New England blood and many distinguished men have originated from this stock.

When eighteen years of age Mrs. Hickox came to Illinois in company with her older sister, Sophronia, and the husband of the latter, Norman Jacobs. This was in 1844, the year before the arrival of her parents. She was twenty-one years old at the time of her marriage to Mr. Hickox, and bore her full share of life upon the farm, proving herself a faithful helpmate to her husband and an affectionate and devoted mother to their children. She retained her mental faculties and physical energy up to the latter years of her life, but died Jan. 10, 1902, aged almost seventy-six years, deeply mourned by the surviving members of her family and all who knew her.

#### THE HURD FAMILY.

The records of the Newberry Library, in Chicago, show the following facts in regard to this family:

The name is spelled variously in ancient times: Thus—Hord; Heard; Hurde, Hoard; Hurd, and was often written Herd. A branch of the family was of royal descent.

John Herd, as the name was then spelled, was the first of the name in America. His grandson, Benjamin, was in Kittery (Me.) be-

fore 1643. Samuel was the oldest son of John. His widow was scalped by Indians in an attack on Dover, N. H. One of the Hurds was in charge of the garrison at Dover at the time of the attack in which Major Walden was killed.

Phineas Hurd, a soldier in the War of the American Revolution, was taken prisoner by the British in 1777, and was never released. Asahel Hurd, of Connecticut, was an Ensign; Isaac Hurd, of Massachusetts, was a Surgeon, and John Hurd, Jr., of Massachusetts, was an Ensign.

Jacob Hurd served in Captain Richard Bean's company in the King Philip's War, and Benjamin Hurd served in Captain Pool's company in the same war.

Nathan Hurd was the first engraver on copper in America and engraved the seal of Harvard College.

Five of the Hords were graduates of Harvard College before 1811.

The family is noted for its longevity. Rebecca Hurd died at Hillsboro, N. H., aged ninety-two years.

Reuben Hurd (deceased), of Woodstock, Ill., during his life an honored citizen and esteemed pioneer of McHenry County, was born in Chenango County, N. Y., April 17, 1819, the son of Rev. Reuben and Sarah (Hill) Hurd—the former born in Bennington, Vt., Feb. 14, 1782, and the latter in Geneseo, N. Y., in 1783. Reuben Hurd was a son of Simeon and Ruth Hurd, the former born July 22, 1725; the latter Nov. 15, 1733. They were married in 1750, and the wife died Sept. 29, 1777. In 1781 he was married to a second wife, named Roxana. The children of the first wife were born as follows: Richard, May 11, 1751; Rebecca, Dec. 30, 1752; Elizabeth, April 10, 1755; Stephen, Jan. 28, 1757; Simeon, March 27, 1759; Ruth, March 6, 1761; Elizabeth, March 6, 1763; Dorcas, May 27, 1765; Susannah, June 28, 1767; Jonathan, Dec. 25, 1770; Zachariah, March 12, 1772; Rebecca (2), Sept. 16, 1775. The children of the second wife were Reuben, born Feb. 14, 1782, and Roxana, born in 1784. Simeon Hurd, the father, was a wealthy farmer and of English descent. The son Reuben left home when a young man, educated himself and became a teacher, afterwards studied theology and entered the ministry of the Presbyterian church. October 4, 1808, he was married at Geneseo, N.





*Mrs Betsey A Nickol*



Y., to Sarah Hill, and removed to Western New York, where he preached to many different charges as a home missionary, chiefly in Allegany and adjoining counties. His wife having died in 1820, on Dec. 19, 1821, he was married at Groton, N. Y., to Jane Simons. The children of the first marriage were: Jerod C. and Elisha H. (twins), born June 11, 1809; Sarah Ann, born June 12, 1812; Roxana, born May 1, 1814; Edgar H., born May 25, 1816; Reuben, born April 17, 1819. The children by the second marriage were: Jane, born Nov. 16, 1822; Benjamin and James (twins), born July 12, 1824; Orpha, born Oct. 31, 1825; Elizabeth, born Nov. 6, 1827; Isabel, born May 17, 1830; Mary, born May 13, 1833; Benjamin (2), born June 24, 1835; Samuel H., born Nov. 17, 1838; Amelia, born May 2, 1843. Rev. Reuben Hurd died July 22, 1750, after a life of great hardship in the missionary field.

Reuben Hurd, Jr., (date of birth given above) received a common-school education, and being the youngest of the first group of children, remained at home and cared for the family, while his father traveled in his missionary work. In 1844 he came to McHenry County, to take charge of some land which had been bought by his brother Edgar, the latter having been compelled to return home on account of sickness. After raising one crop the land was sold. In September, 1845, with a capital of \$12, he was married to Abigail Thompson, born Sept. 8, 1815, at Stafford, Vt., the daughter of Apollos and Lucinda (Dexter) Thompson. She also had a like capital with that of her husband, and these they put together and bought a yoke of oxen and went in debt for eighty acres of unimproved land in Greenwood Township. Here he built a log cabin and began opening a farm, but three years later sold out and bought 160 acres near Ringwood, where he lived four years, when he bought the farm now known as the Hurd homestead, three miles east of Woodstock. This consisted of 130 acres, to which he made additions until he owned 200 acres, on which he made fine improvements and became a prosperous farmer. In 1848 he united with the Presbyterian church in which, a few years later, he became a ruling elder, serving in that capacity thirty years. Being the son of a minister, he was regarded as "a child of the covenant," trained from his earliest years in the faith which he adopted

and to which he adhered for the remainder of his life. He died Sept. 11, 1882, and his wife, July 24, 1901. They had four children: Mary Jeanette, born Aug. 1, 1846; Roxana A., born Aug. 22, 1848; Isabella, born March 31, 1850, and Lucia, born Aug. 1, 1852.

In political faith Mr. Hurd was an original Republican, casting his vote for Fremont and Lincoln for the Presidency in 1856 and 1860. He was a man of great force of character, devoutly religious, and left an impression upon all who knew him of his deep sincerity.

Mary Jeanette Hurd was born in McHenry County, received an education in the common schools and began teaching in 1866, receiving her first certificate from A. J. Kingman. Later she took a course in the State Normal School at Normal, Ill. Making this her life work, she spent some twenty years teaching in Dorr, Greenwood, Nunda and McHenry Townships, her pupils being scattered throughout the entire county. Conscientious and high-minded in character, besides winning a reputation as one of McHenry County's most capable teachers, she has spent her life largely for the benefit of others. Since fifteen years of age she has been a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, which she joined at Woodstock.

Roxana A. Hurd married John S. Hart, Feb. 20, 1880, and died March 9, 1892, her husband dying July 18, 1894. They left an adopted daughter, named Isabella, who has since been cared for by Mrs. Hart's sister, Mary J. Hurd.

Isabella Hurd, another daughter of Reuben Hurd, was married March 1, 1876, to Charles B. Shearer, born in McHenry County, the son of George and Mary (Hunter) Shearer. George Shearer (the father of Charles B.) was born Aug. 6, 1821, at West Milton, Saratoga County, N. Y., and was the son of George Shearer—the last-named George being the son of the American founder of the family who came to this country before the Revolutionary War. George (the grandfather of Charles B.) was a farmer and lived on the farm cleared by his father. His children were: Joseph, George, one daughter who married a man named Cook, Agnes and Charles. He was a Scotch Presbyterian, and the first church in the locality where he lived was built on his land.

Lucia Hurd married, Sept. 9, 1874, George Gilbert, who died March 30, 1892. Later she married Josiah G. Hurd who came to Wood-



stock and bought out the dry-goods store of M. D. Hoy & Sons.

George Shearer (2), the father of Charles B., was reared a farmer and worked for an uncle in Genesee County, N. Y., some years, but about 1843 or 1845 came to McHenry County by way of the lakes and Chicago, encountering a severe storm during the voyage. He bought 120 acres of unimproved land in Nunda Township, but did not settle on it for some years, devoting his time to farm work for others and in McMillan's saw-mill. November 18, 1851, he was married at Ridgefield to Mary M. Hunter, a native of New York. They settled in a log-house on the farm, where they lived fourteen years. Then having sold out he moved to a farm two miles south of Woodstock, remaining ten years, when he located on a farm near Ridgefield known as the Hunter farm, where he died. His children were: Nettie, Charles B., Joseph Henry, Emma and Lelah. Mr. and Mrs. George Shearer were Presbyterians, and in politics Mr. Shearer was a Republican.

Charles B. Shearer was born Feb. 12, 1854, received a common-school education and was brought up a farmer. After marriage he settled on what was known as the old Hunter farm, near Ridgefield, where they lived two years; then spent four years on the Hurd farm, three miles south of Woodstock, when they returned to the Hunter farm, but two years later bought 100 acres in Seneca Township, which he improved, adding thereto until he now owns a farm of 120 acres. In 1893 he removed to Woodstock, where he built a pleasant residence. Their children were: Lucia, Clifford (died in infancy), Mary L. and Emma A. Mr. and Mrs. Shearer are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Shearer is a Republican, and fraternally a Knight of the Globe, in which he has held the offices of Vice-President and Judge. The daughters, Lucia and Mary, are graduates of the Woodstock High School, and Lucia attended the State Normal School and is now a successful teacher at Richmond.

#### CALVIN J. HENDRICKS.

Among the lawyers of McHenry County who have won popularity, the subject of this article occupies a conspicuous place. Modest and unassuming, respectful of the feelings and opinions of others, honorable in the highest

and best sense, possessing those delicate instincts which characterize the true gentleman, his is a worthy example of the high-minded gentleman and successful lawyer.

Calvin J. Hendricks is a native of Illinois, born in Spring Grove, McHenry County, Oct. 27, 1872, the son of John and Johannah (Larkin) Hendricks, natives of Germany and Ireland, respectively. He attended the district school, and later the Woodstock High School, being engaged at farm labor during the intervening summer months. In 1890, when but seventeen years of age, he obtained a teacher's certificate. In 1891 Mr. Hendricks attended the Northern Indiana Normal School and Business College, at Valparaiso, Ind., where he made excellent progress, and on the completion of his work, received a strong testimonial from Prof. H. B. Brown, President of that well-known institution. Mr. Hendricks then obtained employment as a teacher at Grass Lake, Lake County, Ill., where he taught during the spring and fall terms of 1892 and the winter term of 1893. He then entered the law office of David T. Smiley, in Woodstock, and was admitted to the bar May 21, 1895. He remained with Mr. Smiley until April 1, 1899, and in the spring of 1897 was elected Treasurer of the city of Woodstock, an office he held one year and then resigned on account of moving to Harvard. Mr. Hendricks was married in Harvard, Nov. 3, 1897, to Miss Pauline Marie Udell, an estimable lady of fine accomplishments, born in Alden Township, August 17, 1877, daughter of Asad and Kate (Dominy) Udell. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks settled in Harvard, where he opened a law office April 10, 1899, soon obtaining a good practice. He is now (1903) Attorney for the Harvard Mutual Building Loan and Savings Association. Fraternally Mr. Hendricks is a Mason, also a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. Politically he is a Republican, and has always taken an active part in political campaigns, where he has done very effective work as a public speaker, and his addresses before several fraternal societies are a credit to any young orator. In 1899, after a severely contested campaign, Mr. Hendricks was elected City Attorney by a large majority, and filled this important office in a manner highly satisfactory to his constituents. He was re-elected in 1901, and is holding office at



*Calvin J. Hendricks*





the present time (1903), having been again re-elected. He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

Mr. Hendricks is a man of courteous manners and an entertaining and agreeable companion. His knowledge of general literature, his observation of men and events, and his constant endeavor to keep himself in touch with the trend of current thought, combined with his gentlemanly bearing, have won for him universal respect, and make him especially popular in his wide circle of friends.

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#### JOHN HENDRICKS.

John Hendricks, one of the old settlers of Richmond Township and now a resident of Woodstock, is a highly respected and substantial citizen of McHenry County, who has reared an excellent family. He was born in the village of Oberstaffeld, Germany, Rhenish Prussia, Province of Kreis Daun, Nov. 13, 1833, a son of Joseph and Barbara (Claus) Heindrich, as the name was written in Germany, but, like many other German names, the orthography has been changed in America.

Joseph Heindrich was a German merchant and died in his native country in middle life. He was the father of but one child—John, the subject of this sketch—that grew to maturity. After Joseph Heindrich's death, Mrs. Heindrich married again, to Mathias Renn, and they were the parents of one child, a daughter named Elizabeth, who is now a resident of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Renn were Catholics in religion and both died in the "Fatherland."

John Hendricks received a common-school education in his native country and was reared on the farm. When twenty-five years old he came to America, sailing in the early days of September, 1857, from Antwerp, Belgium, in an American vessel, the "Roger A. Hern," and, after a voyage of about two months, arrived in New York, Nov. 2. He came direct to Kenosha, Wis., where he was engaged at farm labor until 1859, when he went to McHenry County and followed the same occupation in McHenry Township. On September 28, 1861, he married, in the village of McHenry, Johannah Larkin, born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, a daughter of Patrick and Catherine (Wall) Larkin. Her father, Patrick Larkin, was a farmer in Ireland and came to America about 1850. He

purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in Lake County, Ill., where he passed the remainder of his days, and died when about eighty years old; his wife dying at the age of ninety-three years. Their children were: Catherine, Ellen, Mary, Bridget, Johanna and James. The family were all members of the Catholic Church.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. John Hendricks lived for a time on rented land and then moved to Lake County, Ill., where they resided for one year, and then located in Richmond Township, McHenry County, near Spring Grove. Here Mr. Hendricks purchased a small tract of land and also engaged in the fire-insurance and sewing-machine business, at the same time giving attention to his farm property, which he improved with good buildings and made a comfortable and pleasant home. Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks are the parents of Elizabeth K., now Mrs. D. T. Smiley; Sibyl M., a teacher in the public schools of McHenry County; Calvin J., a prominent attorney in Harvard, Ill., and Frank J., who is at present engaged as a clerk and resides at home. Mr. Hendricks moved to Woodstock in 1897, where he purchased a pleasant residence and is still engaged in the fire-insurance business. He was Postmaster at Spring Grove during President Cleveland's administration and has also served as a member of the School Board for fifteen years, discharging the duties of each office in a manner creditable to himself and to the satisfaction of the community. Politically he is a Democrat. Mr. Hendricks has always been a friend of education and has given his children excellent educational advantages, all of them having filled positions as teachers in the public schools of McHenry County.

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#### ELIHU HUBBARD.

The home of the American ancestors of this pioneer in Lake County and present citizen of Nunda, McHenry County, Ill., was at Amherst, Mass. Spencer Hubbard, his grandfather, married, lived and died there, after having given many years to farming. His children were born at the dates here given: Submit, Nov. 30, 1779; Polly, July 17, 1781; Pattie, March 15, 1783; Spencer, March 31, 1785; Elihu, July 13, 1787; Daniel, August 29, 1791; Elisha, Sept. 8, 1793. Lucy and Lucinda, twins,

were born date unknown. Daniel Hubbard, son of Spencer Hubbard and father of Elihu Hubbard, was reared a farmer at Amherst, Mass., but learned the cooper's trade and went to Bennington County, Vt. January 14, 1813, he married, at Stamford, Vt., Sophronia Bangs, born at Montague, Mass., June 17, 1797, daughter of Mark and Lydia (Whitney) Bangs. Mark Bangs was descended from ancestors who came over in the good ship *Ann*, not long after the arrival of the *Mayflower*. According to tradition, three brothers Bangs came over aboard the *Ann*, and one of them is thought to have been named Edward. They were of a good English family. Mark Bangs was born Sept. 10, 1771, and afterwards lived at Stamford, Vt. He married Lydia Whitney, born in Massachusetts, Feb. 13, 1772, and had children born as follows: Sophia, Jan. 17, 1797; David, Sept. 28, 1801; Ruby D., Sept. 13, 1803; Justin, March 10, 1806; Bethia, April 30, 1808; Mark, Feb. 3, 1812; Lydia A., March 20, 1814; Ann, July 10, 1818. In 1839 Mark Bangs came from Stamford, Vt., to Lake County, Ill., overland and by lake, and settled on 160 acres of land at the site of Wauconda, which he later bought from the Government at \$1.25 an acre. He built a log house on the bank of Wauconda Lake, and there he died Nov. 5, 1844, and his wife April 13, 1846. They were members of the Baptist church, in which he was a deacon, and he also filled the office of Sunday-school Superintendent. He was twice a pioneer, first in Vermont, where he settled in the woods, and again in Illinois. Daniel Hubbard, father of Elihu Hubbard, began life at Stamford, Vt., as a cooper and farmer, and later made nails from bar-iron by hand until he moved to Madison County, N. Y., and took up a farm in the woods, forty acres of which was cleared almost entirely by his son Elihu, who early in 1836 came to Lake County, Ill., and there built a log cabin to which his father brought the family in the fall, arriving at Bloomingdale, Cook County, Oct. 28, and at the log house in Lake County five days later. He sent his goods by way of the lakes and brought his family in a two-horse wagon, by way of the Miami Swamp Country in Ohio, and was a month on the way. He pre-empted 160 acres of land, which cost him \$1.25 an acre, and, with his son's help, developed it into a good farm, which is owned by his heirs. He was a man of high moral prin-

ciple and a zealous advocate of temperance, and has passed into history as the first man in his vicinity in New York State to have a house-raising without whisky. His neighbors were informed that the usual refreshment would be omitted, but they all came to the raising, which was a success, and there were many such raisings afterward, and a temperance sentiment sprang up in the neighborhood so strong that it is said some men up-rooted their orchards lest their apple-trees might indirectly produce hard cider. Originally an abolitionist, Mr. Hubbard naturally became a Republican. He was, as was his wife, a member of the Baptist church, and he and his grandfather Bangs assisted to organize the first Baptist society at Wauconda. He died Nov. 1, 1864. His children were born as follows: Elihu, Friday, Feb. 11, 1814; Polly, Wednesday, August 2, 1816; Elijah, Saturday, Oct. 10 1818; Nathan, Thursday, Sept. 14, 1820; Edward F., Sunday, Jan. 9, 1831; Edgar B., Sunday, Jan. 26, 1833.

Elihu Hubbard passed his boyhood at Stamford, Vt., two years of the time being on his father's farm, and attended the common schools there until he was ten years old, when in 1824 his father removed to Madison County, N. Y. He worked faithfully for his father and, at the age of twenty, having been "given his time," went by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes, to Michigan, and then walked from Detroit to Kalamazoo County, where he found work with farmers on Big Prairie Round and assisted to harvest a "volunteer" crop of wheat which measured up twenty bushels to the acre. Having contracted the ague, he returned that fall to New York State, and during the succeeding winter he and a friend chopped 200 cords of wood for market. Late in May, 1836, in company with his uncle, Justus Bangs, he went to Toledo, Ohio, thence afoot over the State of Michigan, and crossed the lake from St. Joseph to Chicago, where he met his uncle David Bangs and went with him to his place at Bloomingdale, Cook County, Ill., and from there to Wauconda, Lake County, Ill., where he arrived June 10. He made a claim to 500 acres of land for relatives in Wauconda Township, afterward locating a claim of 240 acres in Elia Township for himself. He erected a log cabin on his claim, with the help of neighboring settlers putting up the building in two days, and during the remainder of the same week he



helped to build four other log houses. His cabin was constructed of round logs, had a stick-chimney plastered with mud, and was roofed with white oak "shakes" secured by roof-poles. By industry and close attention to business details, he prospered and eventually came to own 335 acres, on which he erected substantial modern buildings. He was two years Supervisor of Ela Township and filled the office of Trustee of the Township School Fund for many years. He did good service also as a member of the School Board. He helped to build the Methodist church in his neighborhood and was long one of its class-leaders. Having sold his farm in Ela Township in 1881, he engaged in mercantile trade at Aurora, Ill., (1881-2), until he removed to Nunda. He owns considerable property at Nunda, Crystal Lake and Aurora, and has given his children and others \$30,000 to start them in life. He is a Republican and a member of the Methodist church of Nunda.

May 30, 1843, Mr. Hubbard married Lydia Sutherland, a native of Rutland, Vt., born Dec. 26, 1842, and died at Wauconda, Ill., April 15, 1866. Her father, who was a pioneer in Lake County, died soon after his settlement there, leaving children named: Aldrich, Marinda, Mary, Cordelia, Mason, Sidney, Lydia, Temperance and Innocent. Mr. Hubbard's present wife was Mila P. (Hatch) Berry, born Dec. 28, 1835, whom he married at Libertyville, Ill., Oct. 15, 1867. Mrs. Hubbard is a native of Chautauqua County, N. Y., and a daughter of Nathan and Chloe (Eaton) Hatch. Nathan Hatch, her grandfather, of Puritan stock, fought for American independence in the Revolutionary War. His son, Nathan Hatch, Mrs. Hubbard's father, was born in Massachusetts, became a carpenter and mill-wright and, when a young man, settled in Vermont, where he married Chloe Eaton, of good Yankee parentage. He became a pioneer in Chautauqua County, N. Y., whence he came about 1843 to Brookfield, Wis., where he began to clear up a farm which he disposed of in 1852. He then bought another farm at Libertyville, Lake County, Ill., where he died at the age of about ninety years. He was prominent in the Christian church, of which his wife was also a member, and his family are justly proud of the fact that, as a soldier in the War of 1812, he took part in the battle of Plattsburg. His

children were named Harriet, Russell, Hiram, Sylvanus E., Almira and Mila P., who became Mrs. Hubbard. Mila P. Hatch first married Walter Hutchinson, by whom she had two sons, William and Frederick. After his death she married Judson A. Berry, who died about ten months after their marriage. She then married Mr. Hubbard and has borne him two sons, named Walter B. and Russell C. Mr. Hubbard was one of the earliest pioneers in this region and is one of only a few pioneers who are left. Since his settlement, nearly sixty-four years ago, a prosperous and progressive country has been developed from wild prairie and woodland, and populous towns and cities have sprung up so magically that there are almost as many of them as there were settlers' cabins when he came.

#### WILLIAM HILL.

Among the leading citizens of Nunda, as well as one of the older merchants of McHenry County, Ill., stands the name of William Hill, born at Sherburne, Chenango County, N. Y., April 5, 1830, the son of William and Sally (Connor) Hill. His family was of Puritan stock in the Colony of Connecticut, his grandfather, Ebenezer Hill, being a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and serving under Generals Washington and Putnam. He settled at an early day in Chenango County, N. Y., where he opened up a farm and became a substantial citizen. He died at an advanced age about 1837, leaving several children, two of whom were named William and Eli.

The former (William) was born in Windsor, Conn., in 1804. He received a common school education, learned the trade of a shoemaker and was married in Chenango County to Sally Connor (or Connors), who was born at Albany in 1806. Garret Reed, the father of the latter, was a soldier of the Revolution and a pioneer settler in Chenango County, where he cleared up a large farm and was a prominent citizen. The son-in-law, William Hill, settled in Oxford, Chenango County, but subsequently removed to Sherburne, where he followed his trade as a shoemaker, dying there in 1866, aged about sixty-two years. His children were William, Newell E., Smith, Edward, Ordellia, Elsa, Caroline, Eliza and Nettie. In politics Mr. Hill was a Democrat, while in religious faith his



## McHENRY COUNTY.

wife was a life-long Methodist. The family were well known and honored residents of their county.

William Hill (2), the subject of this sketch, received his education in the common schools of that region, and while young followed the occupation of a farmer, also learning his father's trade of shoemaker, which he pursued some fifteen years. In May, 1851, having reached his majority, he came to Illinois, making the journey by steamboat and stage, by way of Buffalo and Chicago, and arriving at Elgin on the 20th of the month. He went to Crystal Lake, in McHenry County, where he established himself in his trade, which he continued twelve years. Here he was married, May 22, 1852, to Ellen Champlin, also a native of Sherburne, N. Y., born April 12, 1833, the daughter of William and Abby (Porter) Champlin. The Champlin family were also of colonial stock from Connecticut, while the Porters on the maternal side were from the same State. William Champlin, just mentioned, was a farmer and stock-dealer, who settled with his family in Algonquin Township, McHenry County, Ill., in 1850, and built a distillery there, which he managed for a number of years. He was a prominent business man in his day and went to Iowa in his old age, where he died at the home of his son, William Champlin, at the age of over ninety years. His other children were Abby A. (who became Mrs. E. D. Williams), Lucia, Francis, Althea and Ellen L.

In 1870 William Hill engaged in the mercantile business at Crystal Lake, but moved to Nunda in October, 1895, and there entered into the market and grocery business in company with his son Frederick J. Mrs. Hill, who was a woman of many virtues and a Universalist in religious belief, died in December, 1877, leaving three children: Clarence A., Nellie A. and Frederick J.

August 11, 1878, Mr. Hill was married at Crystal Lake to Mrs. Elsie (or Elsa) V. Borden. She was born at Nunda, April 15, 1843, the daughter of James and Clarissa (Stannard) Hastings. Mr. Hastings emigrated from Ohio to Illinois at an early day and established himself as a substantial farmer in Lake County. In 1841 he removed to Crystal Lake Township, locating on a farm one and a half miles from Nunda, dying there in 1843. Elsa V. was the only child. She was first married to Gilbert

Borden, and had two children—Nettie and Laban. The result of her second marriage with Mr. Hill has been one child—Dora L.

In politics Mr. Hill was originally a Democrat, but on the introduction of the slavery issue by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, he became one of the original Republicans of McHenry County, voting for John C. Fremont in 1856 and for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and has continued to vote the Republican ticket ever since. Fraternally he is a Mason, being a member of Nunda Lodge No. 169, in which he has held the offices of Senior Warden and Treasurer. He was a patriotic supporter of the war for the preservation of the Union, and, in 1861, assisted in raising a company of volunteers, of which he was elected Second Lieutenant, but was rejected on account of the loss of an eye. This loss had occurred when he was twenty years of age, in consequence of a comrade throwing a tobacco pipe at him in sport. The estimation in which he is held in the community is indicated by the fact that he held the office of Justice of the Peace for several years—being first elected to fill a vacancy and then for a full term—besides serving as Constable four years and Collector one term. He was Postmaster at Crystal Lake fourteen years, being first appointed by President Grant. He has also been prominent in educational matters, having been a member of the School Board at Crystal Lake for nine years and at Nunda for three years.

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ISAAC HARSH.

The founders of the Harsh family in America were among the early colonial settlers of New Jersey and came from Scotch ancestry. William Harsh, the grandfather of Isaac, was an early settler of New Jersey and his children were William, Cornelius, Andrew and Merriam. Andrew Harsh, the third of his sons, was born in New Jersey, August 2, 1806, and was raised on a farm. He married in Tioga County, Pa., Mary Traphagan, who was born Dec. 15, 1812, of German ancestry and Pennsylvania stock. Her father was a blacksmith and his children were: Alexander, Charles, James, Catherine, Harriet, Jane and Hannah. Andrew Harsh was a farmer and settled on the border of New York State, near the Pennsylvania line, where he lived for three or four

years, and in the fall of 1839 moved to Illinois. He came through with two teams and a wagon and camped on the way. The trip from Chicago to McHenry County was a difficult undertaking, but after it was completed, the family settled about two miles south of where Isaac Harsh now lives. Andrew Harsh lived here until the spring of 1840, when he bought and cleared 320 acres of land adjoining Isaac's present farm, upon which he built a log house with stick chimney and shake roof. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Harsh were members of the Methodist church. Their children were Belinda A., Isaac, Sarah and Esther. In political opinion Mr. Harsh was an old line Whig and later became a Republican on the organization of that party. He died Sept. 19, 1854, at the age of forty-eight years, while his wife lived to be eighty-two years of age, dying in 1895. Mr. Harsh was a substantial farmer, a leading citizen in his township and county, and widely respected by his fellow-citizens.

Isaac Harsh was born at Waverly, N. Y., August 15, 1835, and was about four years of age when his parents came to McHenry County. He was raised on the farm and received a common-school education. His father having died when the son was eighteen years old, the latter remained on the home farm, of which he took charge after his father's death. On Feb. 5, 1862, he married in McHenry Township Lodusky Parker, daughter of Samuel and Sybil (Howard) Parker, born at Rutland, Vt., Oct. 4, 1839. The Parkers and Howards were of Puritan New England stock and of English descent. Samuel Parker, Sr., was a native of Clarendon, Vt., and died on his farm in Rutland Township of that State. His children were: John, Samuel, Daniel, Emory, Thaddeus, Ellen, Eliza, Almira, Hannah and Sallie. Samuel Parker, Jr., was born Feb. 14, 1811, at Clarendon, Vt., and received a good common-school education and owned a good farm in his native State. His children were: Samuel, Elizabeth, Walter, Lodusky, Sally and Ellen. Mr. Parker was an industrious and upright citizen, a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and universally respected. He died on his farm Jan. 3, 1892, aged eighty-one years.

Mrs. Harsh received a good education and taught school in Rutland County, Vt., for two terms, and then came to Illinois to visit her sister, Elizabeth, who had married Charles Si-

mons and moved with him to McHenry County in the fall of 1860. In 1862 she married Mr. Harsh and they lived on a part of the Harsh homestead until they moved to their present farm in 1887. They rebuilt the residence and improved the farm, which was also part of the original Harsh homestead, as the father had previously sold a part of his estate. Mr. Harsh now owns a farm of 320 acres. In politics he is a Republican, has been Highway Commissioner for several terms, is a member of the Board of Education and was a member of the Executive Committee of the McHenry County Agricultural Society for a great many years. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and as a citizen has always been prominent and public-spirited. In the development of McHenry County, and especially that of his own township, he has been closely identified, and ready to assist in every project for the advancement of the material interests of his community. Flora May, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harsh, married Joseph E. Cristy, who is a merchant in Ringwood.

#### WILLIAM DUANE HALL.

William Duane Hall, a leading lumber dealer and business man of Harvard, Ill., is descended from two fine old colonial families, the Halls and the Clarks. The Hall family, in point of numbers, ranks in Great Britain next to the Smiths, Browns, Joneses and Robinsons. The late Albert Hall, of New York, had at one time in his possession no less than a hundred and six different specimens of the Hall coat-of-arms. Indexes of the genealogical department of the Newberry Library, of Chicago, have two large volumes referring to Hall families. The name has been handed down from three different sources. English families received it from the chief of the principal appointment of the manor house, who often took the surname Del Hall, and transmitted it to his eldest son. Norwegians named their families from the word Hollr—the final letter of which is silent—standing for flint and hero; hence the Scotch word Hollr. In Welsh the word signifies salt, and has also been used as a surname. The men of Halle, who poured into England during successive invasions, helped to flood the language with this name. Nearly all Halls have good blood in their veins. Old English



Hall families trace their descent from royal ancestors. Among lineal ancestors of different Hall families of the present day are: The Right Rev. John Hall, Bishop of Bath and Wells, author of the first original English comedy; Richard Mather, who with Rev. John Eliot and Thomas Welde, compiled the first book printed in America, known as the "Bay Psalm Book"; John Eliot, who also brought out the first Indian version of the Scriptures, and the first poetical critique of the "Common Wealth"—the last named book being published in 1654; Rev. Peter Bolkeley, author of the "Gospel Commands," printed in England in 1648, and in whose church, at Concord, Mass., was held the first Provincial Congress; the uncle of Rev. Cotton Mather, whose son, Rev. Israel Mather, was the first person in Boston to receive the Doctor of Divinity degree; a brother of Elihu Hall, who was the first Notary Public of Connecticut, appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury; one of the eight Presidents of Harvard College, and three brothers of Presidents of the same institution; and eight of the barons, out of twenty-five chosen by English nobles to enforce the observance of the Magna Charta, wrested from King John in 1215. The Halls, predominating among the Anglo-Saxons, were naturally largely represented among early settlers of New England and other sections of our country. Eighty-three distinct Hall families, mostly from England, settled in New England prior to 1650, and many more in Virginia. There were eight John Halls recorded in the early New England records, and twenty-five Halls, as Continental Army records show, who served in the Revolution from the Lexington alarm to the close of the war. Other Halls prominent in colonial military records are: Ralph Hall, clerk of Capt. Henchman's Campaign against King Philip; Daniel Hall, a soldier in Major Appleton's Company, in the Narragansett campaign; Thomas Hall, who was in the same war under Capt. Davenport; Henry Hall, among the slain and wounded in Capt. Olvin's Company; and Richard Hall, who served under Thomas Brattle.

Many New England Halls came from County Kent, England, and are probably mostly of the same original Saxon blood. All Hall families tracing their descent to Connecticut branches came from one of the following ancestors:

John Hall, the original Connecticut Hall, born in England, in 1605, son of Gilbert Hall, of Rolvendue, County Kent, came to America and settled at Wallingford, Conn., prior to 1833, and died at Middletown in the same State, May 26, 1673, in his eighty-first year. His brother Francis came also and settled at Fairfield, Conn. William Hall, probably a relative of John and Francis, came from Rolvendue, and became one of the select company of young men, who founded the town of Guilford, Conn.; and in that county he died, March 8, 1669.

William D. Hall is of the Connecticut stock. His great-grandfather, Hall, had several children: a daughter, who began life as a school-teacher, and eventually became a wealthy citizen of New York. John Fayette drove across the country to one of the Southern States, and there settled. He had a son who served in the Confederate army, and a son-in-law who was Major in the same force. Elihu Hall, grandfather of William D. Hall, was born in Connecticut, Feb. 19, 1776. When a young man he shouldered his ax and traveled across the country to Bridgewater, Oneida County, N. Y., and later cleared up a splendid farm for himself within a half a mile of the town. He lived to be seventy years old and died on his farm. He married Nancy Maxon and their children were: Eunice; Chester, who succeeded to his father's farm; Elihu; Lee, and Henry. Mr. Hall possessed energy, marked ability and thrift. As a farmer he was thoroughly prosperous. Politically he was an old-line Whig. Active in religious works, he was one of the founders of the Presbyterian church, of Bridgewater, and served as deacon for many years.

Hon. Henry Hall, father of William D. Hall, possessed the kind of hardihood and ability that win success for a man at every step in life. Born in Bridgewater, Oneida County, N. Y., Oct. 26, 1813, he received in the common schools of his vicinity a good education, and on his father's farm practical training for his life-work. The opening up of the Middle West induced him, in 1846, to cast his lot with the pioneers of that section, and, journeying by way of the canal through Buffalo and across the great lakes to Chicago, he drove over to Big Foot Prairie, Wis., where he purchased of a discouraged pioneer, James Maxwell, 320 acres of excellent farming land, a portion of which had been broken. Encouraged by his



prospects, he soon afterward returned to New York State, and there, in Brookfield, Madison County, Sept. 8, 1846, married Lucy Clark, who was born in that place, Aug. 28, 1821, daughter of Abel and Lucinda (York) Clark. Mrs. Hall, though far advanced in years, is still living, and is well preserved, retaining her memory and her mental faculties remarkably well. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hall: Mary Elnora, born July 8, 1847, lived to maturity and married, but is now deceased; William D., mentioned below; Robert W., born July 21, 1853; and Anna E., born June 23, 1856—both on Big Foot Prairie homestead.

Shortly after his marriage, in November, 1846, Mr. Hall and his wife proceeded by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes to Milwaukee. Taking up the hardships of pioneer life, they passed the winter in a small house with two other families, in Walworth County, Wis., about three miles from this prairie farm, the next summer in a shanty somewhat nearer their land, and finally, late in the fall, moved to a rude house on the farm itself. Here he began work in earnest, and the following spring erected a very comfortable frame house. Skillful management, hard work, and determination wrought wonderful changes in the place in a short time. He cleared up large tracts, erected another house in 1859, and in time became very prosperous, having a valuable estate to divide among his children, including sixteen acres of excellent land along the Geneva Lake shore. In 1880 he moved to Harvard, Ill., where he passed his last days. He died at the residence of his daughter, Anna E. Church of that place, July 26, 1885, at the age of seventy-two years.

As a pioneer settler Mr. Hall won for himself a wide popularity, and though not an office-seeker, represented his district very acceptably in the Wisconsin State Legislature for 1869-70. In his own County he served as Road Commissioner, Supervisor, and member of the Board of Education. Politically he was at first a Whig, and later a Republican, voting for both John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. He was a man of the highest integrity, and both he and his wife belonged to the Baptist church, he being one of the founders of that church at Big Foot. Interested in the advancement of education, he was one of the founders of the Walworth Academy, the others

being Elder O. P. Hull, Cyrus Church, Benjamin Clarke, Elijah Easton, S. H. Van Schaick, and Amos and Joseph Bailey. The institution was opened in the winter of 1859.

William Duane Hall started in life under favorable circumstances. Born on the well-regulated Wisconsin homestead, Sept. 3, 1850, he there received careful rearing, and in the performance of farm duties plenty of healthful exercise. In the public schools of his neighborhood he acquired his early education, later attending the Academies at Walworth and Sharon, and finally finishing at the old Chicago University, after two and a half years' attendance. Well equipped, in 1873, at the age of twenty-three, he embarked upon life as a lumber-dealer, in Harvard, Ill. A ready power of pushing his enterprise, skill in handling his men, and wise financial management soon placed his business upon a solid foundation. He has enlarged it from year to year and is now carrying on an extensive and highly prosperous trade. He has won the entire confidence of the community, and is considered one of the most successful business men in Harvard.

November 29, 1889, Mr. Hall married Euretta Young, who was born in Canada, near the Vermont State line, daughter of William H. and Nancy (Cochrane) Young. By this union there has been one child, William Henry.

William D. Hall is a man of brilliant attainments, well-fitted for almost any position in life. In Harvard, where he has made his career, he has served in the City Council for two terms—turning his shrewd business judgment and his skill at financiering to thoroughly good account in the interest of the general public. Efficiency has recently won him the mayoralty of the city, a position which he is filling with marked dignity and ability. Fraternally he stands high, and affiliates with Harvard Blue Lodge No. 309, A. F. & A. M.; Harvard Chapter, No. 91, Cavalry Commandery, No. 25, Woodstock; the Knights of Pythias of Harvard, and Medinah Temple A. A. O. N. M. S., of Chicago, has filled the subordinate offices of the Blue Lodge, and the principal ones of the chapter. Politically he is an unwavering Republican.

The Clark family, maternal ancestors of Mayor Hall, are of Massachusetts colonial stock. Jonathan Clark, great-grandfather of

the Mayor, originally of Massachusetts, became a pioneer of Madison County, N. Y., and there he died. He married a woman named Keziah, and their children were: Alvin, Samuel and Abel P.

Abel P. Clark, grandfather of Mayor Hall, was born in Massachusetts, and there received a common-school education, and also learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed for some years. Coming to Madison County, N. Y., at an early manhood, he became a pioneer of that section. There he married Lucinda York, who was born in Stonington, Conn., daughter of John and Ketura (Brown) York. Abel P. Clark and wife had four children: William, Mary, Lucy and Alvin—the daughter, Lucy becoming the mother of Mayor Hall.

The Yorks and Browns were of colonial Puritan stock. John York, maternal grandfather of the Mayor, moved from Stonington, Conn., to Madison County, N. Y., where he cleared up a large farm for himself and became a well-to-do citizen. He married Ketura Brown and they had eight children: John, Thomas, Ichabod, Ketura, Lucinda, Nancy, Sally and Lucy. The sons settled near the family homestead, which is now in possession of descendants. Mr. York lived to a good old age and left a valuable estate to his children. He was a highly respected citizen and a member of the Baptist church.

William Henry Young, father of the Mayor's wife, was of Scotch extraction, was born in St. Thomas District, Montreal, April 19, 1815, and received a common-school education. He married in Canada, Lany Rowe, and after her death, Nancy Cochrane, who was born in County Down, Ireland, Jan. 3, 1823, daughter of Frank and Mary (———) Cochrane, died Aug. 26, 1885, at St. Thomas Canada. By the first marriage there were six children: Cornelia, Lydia, George, Eliza, Margaret and Narcissa. By the second marriage there were six children: Mary, Wolfred, Eureka, Melvin, Melissa, and Frank. After his marriage Mr. Young settled upon a farm in St. Thomas, Province of Quebec, Canada, where he carried on a successful industry, becoming a highly prosperous agriculturalist. Mr. Young was a man of broad views, was influential in local affairs, widely known and highly respected. He was a man of strong religious convictions, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He died March 9, 1882. His wife died Aug. 26, 1885.

#### HENRY HERMAN.

Among the people from abroad who have sought homes in America, those from Alsace rank with the practical, progressive and prosperous, and became rapidly Americanized. They were among the early pioneers in McHenry County and their descendants are exemplary citizens of a strong robust physique and of excellent personal appearance. The Hermans were among the representative pioneer families from Alsace, where Henry Herman, an enterprising business man of Woodstock, was born Aug. 2, 1831, son of Henry G. and Eva (Jacobs) Herman.

Henry G. Herman was born in Preuszdorf, Alsace, where the family had lived for generations. Mr. Herman owned a good farm and was a well-to-do citizen. He was in the French army seven years, serving in a war against Spain and three years in Martinique. He was the father of one child, Henry. Mr. Herman came to America in 1845, sailing from Havre, France, in the spring of that year in the sailing vessel, "Leonida," and was twenty-nine days on the voyage to America, which was an unusually quick passage for that time. He came directly to McHenry County, via the Erie Canal, the great lakes and Chicago. He settled on Kishwaukee Prairie, where he bought 160 acres of land on which there was a log cabin and eighty acres had been broken. He was a man of energy and perseverance, and soon made a good farm upon which he built substantial buildings. As he prospered he added to his acres, and, selling his first farm, he bought another of 500 acres near by. Here his wife died aged about fifty-six years. In 1868 Mr. Herman came to Woodstock and afterwards lived with his son Henry, who had settled there. His death occurred at seventy-eight years of age. Like all of our pioneers from Alsace, he gained his property by hard work. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and a plain man, strictly honest in his ways and dealings.

Henry Herman, the subject of this article, attended school in Preuszdorf, Alsace, until he was fourteen years of age. When sixteen years old, he came with his parents to



America. There was much hard work to be done on a new farm, and young Henry, in his early days, had but little relaxation from toil, but this early discipline proved to be an excellent training school through life, as he was inured to labor and learned the habits of industry. When but twenty years of age, he married Margaret Sondericker, born in Alsace, France, daughter of Henry Sondericker, a pioneer settler of Queen Ann Prairie. Mr. and Mrs. Herman settled on the Herman homestead and lived there until they moved to Woodstock in August, 1868. Here he entered into company with Arnold and Zimmer in the brewing business, the plant then being located on the same site as the present brewery. This partnership continued until 1897, but since that time Mr. Herman has owned the larger part of the property and business. The old firm built a large malt house in 1885, which was destroyed by fire the following year, but a new one was erected the same year and at the same time the old brewery re-built. The firm did a successful business and stood well in the mercantile world, shipping beer to Chicago, Crystal Lake, Dundee, Nunda, Harvard and many other points throughout the surrounding country. The new building was burned May 5, 1902, and the business discontinued. Mr. Herman now owns a farm of 176 acres which adjoins the corporation of Woodstock on the west.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman were the parents of Henry G., Peter, Dr. George K., and Charlotte. Dr. George K. was educated in Chicago, and Henry G. received his education in South Bend, Ind., and Chicago. Mrs. Herman died in 1875. She was a member of the Presbyterian church and a woman noted for her industry and excellent qualities. March 13, 1877, Mr. Herman married as his second wife Lena Eppel, born at Kleeburg, Alsace, June 24, 1840, daughter of Jacob and Marguerite (Frey) Eppel. Mr. and Mrs. Herman have one child, Irene E., who is a graduate of the Woodstock High School, Class of 1900, and is now attending Berea College, Kentucky.

Jacob Eppel was born in Kleeburg, Alsace, where his family had lived for a long period and owned land. In 1826 he married in Alsace, Marguerite, daughter of Henry Frey, and they were the parents of Marguerite, Catherine, Lena, Fred, Henry and Christopher. Jacob

Eppel and family came to America in November, 1885, sailing from Havre, France, in a sailing vessel, the voyage occupying twenty-eight days. His son, Jacob Eppel, had come to America two years previously. Mr. Eppel settled in Hartland Township on 160 acres of land which he converted into a good farm. He and his wife were members of the German Presbyterian church, and were well-known pioneer citizens of sterling qualities. Mr. Eppel died when about seventy-six years of age.

Henry Herman is a representative and public-spirited citizen. He has been a member of the Board of Education for about twenty-one years, and has always been in favor of any enterprise that would be a benefit to the town. He is a member of the Presbyterian church in which he has been an elder for several years, and, is also, treasurer. Fraternally he is a Mason, a member of Lodge 63, Woodstock. Throughout the most of his life he has been a strong supporter of Democratic principles as enunciated by Jefferson and Jackson, but has voted the Republican ticket since 1896. Mr. Herman is largely interested in supplying Woodstock with ice, his company owning four ice-houses. Mr. Herman is a plain, substantial man who devotes his whole attention to his business, although he has now reached an age when many men retire. As a business man he is upright, reliable, and honorable. In all places and under all circumstances, he is loyal to truth, honor and right, justly regarding his self-respect and the deserved esteem of his fellow men as more valuable than fame or position.

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#### STEPHEN H. HARR.

Stephen Henry Horr, practical machinist and foreman of the mechanical department of the Oliver Typewriter Company, Woodstock, Ill., is a native of Illinois, born at Hamilton, Hancock County, July 4, 1860, the son of John and Louise (Parsons) Horr. Mr. Horr's father, John Horr, was a native of Germany who came to America about 1830, and settled at Warsaw, Hancock County, Ill., where he engaged in gardening and truck-farming. His wife, Louise Parsons, was a native of England, came to America, and was married to Mr. Horr at Warsaw in 1858. The father ran a vineyard and fruit farm near Warsaw for some years, but in



1865 removed across the river to Montrose, Iowa, where he died March 22, 1899, aged seventy-seven years, and Mrs. Horr, Feb. 12, of the same year, aged sixty. Their children were: Stephen Henry, Kate, wife of Edwin Butler; Jennie, wife of Walter Smith; Amelia, wife of Edward Smith; Minnie, wife of Joseph Spring. All these children except Stephen were born at Montrose, Iowa.

After receiving the usual common-school education in his boyhood, Stephen H. Horr, at the age of about fifteen years, began learning the machinist's trade in the Novelty Iron Works at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. He remained with this concern four years, after which, for the next two years, he was in the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. He then spent four years in the service of the Eagle Iron Works at Des Moines, when he engaged with the Marshall Brothers of the same place, at that time manufacturers and wholesale dealers in dental supplies. This concern having undertaken the manufacture of the Oliver Typewriter soon after the perfection of that invention, Mr. Horr became interested in this branch of the work, and assisted Mr. Oliver, the inventor, in the construction and perfection of his machine. In fact, it is said that the second machine constructed for Mr. Oliver was made with the aid of Mr. Horr in the establishment of Marshall Brothers in 1891. While giving evidence of his skill as a machinist, he brought to the aid of Mr. Oliver, who was not a mechanic, the advantages of a trained mind and faculties quickened by a long and successful career as a practical machinist. In June, 1892, he entered into the employment of the Oliver Typewriter Company at Epworth, Iowa, and has remained with the company ever since, establishing for himself a reputation as one of its most thoroughly skilled machinists and an experienced foreman. In 1895 he came to Woodstock as foreman of the mechanical department—the most delicate and important branch of this industry—and has made many valuable suggestions looking to the perfection of the machine. Fraternally, he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd-Fellows of Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Horr's unbroken connection with the Oliver Typewriter Company, almost from the inception of this industry, proves the high estimate placed by his employers upon his services, both as a skilled machin-

ist and in an administrative capacity as the head of the mechanical department.

Mr. Horr was married, March 22, 1883, at Des Moines, Iowa, to Mary E. Howard, and they have one daughter, Charlotte L., who was born Nov. 3, 1884. She was married Feb. 11, 1903, to Charles Huntzinger, who is proprietor of the Main Street Restaurant, Woodstock. He is a native of Ohio. Mrs. Stephen H. Horr was born in Polk County, Iowa, Oct. 13, 1865, the daughter of Francis A. and Minerva (McCormick) Howard. Her father, Francis Howard, was a native of Illinois, and followed the life of a farmer, renting land until his children were partly grown. He and his wife have had seven children: William H., Mary E., Richard, Albert, Sarah Ellen (who died in infancy), Frankie and Harry. The family live in Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Howard's father, Hamilton Howard, died at Rising Sun, Iowa, where he was carrying on a hotel at the time of his death. His wife before her marriage was Sarah Stewart. Minerva McCormick, who became the wife of Francis A. Howard, was the daughter of Robert and Martha McCormick, who lived in Missouri and were Southern born. Robert McCormick was a farmer and he and his two sons, Enoch and Tillman, became soldiers in the Union Army during the War of the Rebellion, and were never afterwards heard of.

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#### LEWIS HATCH.

Lewis Hatch, pioneer, retired farmer and extensive land-owner, Spring Grove, McHenry County, is of English ancestry, the founders of the American branch of the family having settled at an early period in colonial history on Martha's Vineyard, off the southern coast of Massachusetts. Lewis Hatch, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and of the same name, was of the Martha's Vineyard family, and settled at an early day at Granville, Washington County, N. Y., where he cleared up a large farm from the forest and became a prominent citizen. He was twice married, his children by his first marriage whose names are remembered being: Wait, Davis, Annie and Phoebe. His second wife had three children: Asa, Rebecca and Delight. The maiden names of his two wives are not recalled in this

connection. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and died on his farm in New York. Wait Hatch, the older son belonging to this family, was born in Granville, N. Y., and having received the usual common-school education of the time, became a farmer. He married in his native town Martha Spencer, who was born at Granville, N. Y., the daughter of Jeremiah Spencer, of an old American family of that name. Wait Hatch settled in the town of Hebron, Washington County, N. Y., where he owned a farm, and he and his wife had the following named children: Hannah, Almira, Levi, Lydia, Lewis, Jeremiah, Eli, Mary, Sarah A., Phoebe and John. Hannah, the oldest child, died while young. Mr. and Mrs. Wait Hatch were members of the Presbyterian church, of which the former was a deacon. Wait Hatch was an industrious and representative citizen, and died on his farm aged about sixty years.

Lewis Hatch, of this family, was born in Hebron Township, Washington County, N. Y. April 20, 1814, and, while an infant, was taken in his mother's arms to see the sloop of war which had been captured by the Americans from the British in the battle on Lake Champlain, the decks of which were still covered with the blood of the killed and wounded in that battle. The youthful Lewis received a common-school education by attending the district school during the winter months while performing farm-work in the summer. In this way he acquired a sufficient education to engage in teaching a district school during the winter of 1836-37. While still a small boy he had learned to do farm work, and, when eighteen years old, his father having "given him his time," he began learning the carpenter's trade. Although always small in stature, he performed the labor assigned to him with energy and determination, in constructing the frame work of a large barn proving himself a capable mechanic. In the spring of 1837, after his experience as a teacher during the preceding winter, he left the State of New York for the West, making the journey by railroad from Albany to Schenectady and thence by the Erie Canal to Buffalo. He then walked along the Lake Shore until he was able to board a steamboat, which carried him to Detroit, and from there made the journey on foot across the

peninsula, to Niles, Mich., where he took steamer to St. Joseph, and thence by schooner to Milwaukee, Wis. From Milwaukee he went on foot across the country with a party of surveyors to Janesville, Wis., prospecting for land. On this trip he followed an old Indian trail upon which there were no white settlements. Continuing his foot-journey, he visited Rockford and Chicago. After remaining at the latter place a few days, he took the Galena trail to Pleasant Grove in McHenry County, and after visiting Geneva Lake, proceeded to Racine and Kenosha, Wis. He ended his tour by entering land at Wilmot, Kenosha County, upon which he built a log-house, besides making other improvements. He also purchased five lots, at the land sale at Milwaukee, which he afterwards traded for land in Michigan. In the spring of 1839 he came to English Prairie, in Burton Township, McHenry County, where he entered 160 acres of land at Nippersink and bought a saw mill, which he ran for a number of years. By industry and good management he prospered and, adding to his land, became an extensive farmer. On April 20, 1844, he was married in Burton Township to Mandana Cole, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Mr. Plumbstead, a Presbyterian minister. Mrs. Hatch was born July 22, 1825, at Newchester—now called Hill—N. H., the daughter of Miles and Sally (Bixby) Cole. (For history of this family, see sketch of Miles H. Cole.)

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hatch settled in a little log house which had been erected by Jonathan Kimball, the original claimant of the land. This cabin was of the most primitive sort and here they lived one year, until they could build a frame house. Later they erected other substantial farm buildings which were destroyed by fire in 1854, but afterwards rebuilt in more modern style. In 1850 Mr. Hatch crossed the plains to California with an outfit of five horses and accompanied by a man named Adams and a sixteen-year-old boy by the name of Post. They left Burton Township April 8, 1850, and crossing the Missouri River at Council Bluffs, arrived at Georgetown, Cal., September 1, following. The plains were then in a state of nature, grand in their vast extent and the richness of their vegetation, with herds of buffalo and antelope almost continually in sight. Mr. Hatch engaged in min-



ing on the American River with fairly satisfactory results until the winter of 1853, when he came home, after an absence of nearly four years, returning by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York City. In April, 1875, he moved to his present homestead, which he had purchased some years previous, and which then consisted of 5.0 acres. To this he has since made additions, until he now owns, in the immediate vicinity, over 1,300 acres. His buildings here were destroyed by fire in 1873, but have since been replaced by others of a more substantial character. Mr. and Mrs. Hatch are the parents of the following named children: Lewis Fayette (who died aged two years), Miles Fayette, Frederick, Lewis, Martha, Loretta and Franklin Wait—all born in Burton Township. Originally an old-line Whig, Mr. Hatch became a Republican on the organization of that party, voting for John C. Fremont in 1856 and for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and 1864. An honored citizen of his township, he has taken an active interest in its affairs, including good roads, public schools, etc., and has held the offices of Supervisor and School Director for a number of years. He is one of the largest land-holders in McHenry County, besides his home farm and other lands in the vicinity, amounting to 1,300 acres, being the owner of 800 acres in Beadie County, and 400 acres in Brooking County, S. D., and probably over 1,000 acres in the State of Washington. His children are all well educated, his sons being graduates of the State University at Champaign, while Frank W., after spending a year at Yale College, graduated at the Union College of Law, Chicago. All the sons are active business men. The daughter, Loretta, graduated from the Illinois State Normal School, was a teacher for a number of years, and married A. H. Hubbard, of Elgin, but is now deceased. Mr. Hatch is the last original pioneer farmer now remaining upon his farm in McHenry County, and is one of the few still surviving who represent the olden days when the American pioneers were an active force in the settlement and development of the Great West. His life has been one of great business activity, and at an age of nearly eighty-nine years, he retains his mental and physical vigor in a remarkable degree.

#### FRED L. HATCH.

Fred L. Hatch, Spring Grove, McHenry County, a representative citizen and extensive breeder of fine stock, was born in Spring Grove, Ill., Nov. 1, 1848, the son of Lewis and Mandana (Cole) Hatch. He received a liberal education, first graduating from Elgin Academy, and, in 1873, from the State University of Illinois at Champaign, still later receiving the degree of A. M. in due course from his Alma Mater. His father being an extensive land owner, Mr. Hatch early turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, to which he added that of stock-breeding. He first engaged in breeding pure-blood Short-horn Durham cattle, of which he has a large herd, and he has become one of the most widely known men in this line in Northern Illinois. He has added to his business in other lines that of breeder of Shropshire sheep and Berkshire swine, in which he is extensively engaged, and has also bred some very fine horses. One of the most noted horses bred by him was "Lofer," which had a record of 2:14, but has paced a mile in 2:08, being undoubtedly the fastest horse ever bred in McHenry County.

Mr. Hatch has, for the past twenty-five years, been prominently identified with the McHenry County Fair Association, of which, for six years, he was President. He is also President of the Farmers' Picnic Institute and a leading member of the McHenry County Farmers' Institute, which he has frequently been called upon to address on agricultural and other topics.

In politics Mr. Hatch is a staunch Republican, having cast his first vote for General Grant for President. Fraternally he is a member of Spring Grove Lodge Order of Modern Woodmen of America, in which he has held the office of Venerable Councillor. He has also been an extensive traveler in his native country, and has visited most of the States of the American Union, including California and Florida, as well as the Klondike region of Alaska and the new republic of Cuba. He is a gentleman of fine literary tastes and culture, and withal an extensive reader of the better class of British and American poets, being especially interested in those who touch deftly and tenderly upon themes dealing with the laws and secrets of Nature.



Mr. Hatch was married at Belvidere, Ill., Jan. 3, 1876, to Annie M. Reynolds, the daughter of Edwin H. Reynolds. Mrs. Hatch was a student of the State University of Illinois, and was a woman of rare culture and a genial companion of her husband in his literary work. Her death occurred March 26, 1896, at the age of forty-four years. Mr. Hatch is one of those American citizens of broad views of life who, while liberally educated, prefer the duties and enjoyments of the agriculturist and stock-grower in the country to a professional life in the city. Hence his choice of a career which has been attended with such marked success and enjoyment. A public-spirited citizen, he is interested in questions of local improvement, and for ten years served as Supervisor of his township, and was also a School Trustee for several years. He is also a Trustee of the State University, and is now President of the Board. He was one of the founders of the Spring Grove Creamery Association, and is now the President of this successful business enterprise. In his younger days he engaged in teaching for a time, being employed in this capacity at Champaign, and still later in McHenry and Kane Counties.

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#### WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

William Henry Harrison is a veteran of the Civil War, a substantial farmer and one of the early settlers of Ringwood Prairie. This branch of the Harrisons is of sterling English stock. His grandfather, Robert Harrison, born in Yorkshire, England, was a stock-dealer and accustomed to attend the fairs of England with fine stock. He married in England and his children were Richard, John, Thomas, Robert, Charles, Mary, Elizabeth and Ann.

Robert Harrison and wife came to America in 1844, their children having settled in Illinois. Robert was then an old man and died at the residence of his son Richard, in Greenwood Township, aged about sixty-nine years. The family were members of the church of England. In later life Mr. Harrison was in moderate circumstances, but in England, when engaged in the stock business, he was well off. His wife died aged eighty-two years. Robert, the son of the above, was born in Yorkshire,

England, received a limited common-school education in his native country, and married in Kirk Burton, Yorkshire, Feb. 25, 1837, Ann Earnshaw, born of a wealthy family in Huddersfield, England. Robert Harrison came to Chicago in 1835, the voyage from Liverpool to New York in a sailing vessel occupying about eight weeks. The journey to Chicago was made by way of the lakes. He first worked for a time at daily labor, but later engaged with the firm of Gage & Haynes in a flouring mill on Van Buren Street, Chicago, remaining with them as head engineer for eighteen years.

In 1855 he moved to McHenry County and bought of his brother John, the property where Mr. William H. Harrison now lives. John Harrison was a pioneer and had entered the land in 1839. John came from England to Canada in 1833 and to Ottawa, Ill., in 1838. When Robert bought the farm it consisted of 210 acres and had on it the frame house and barn which his brother John had built. Robert, after settling on the farm, still further improved it, and here passed the remainder of his days. In political opinion he was an old line Whig and early Republican, and voted for Abraham Lincoln. He was a hard-working, industrious man of broad mind and liberal views, and a good citizen well known for his integrity of character. In England he was a member of the church of England but in later life became a Universalist. Mr. Harrison died in 1873. He and his wife were the parents of the following named children: Eliza, born in Chicago, June 9, 1838, died at Ringwood, aged about seventeen years; Jane, born July 15, 1840; William Henry, born Aug. 5, 1842; Sarah Ann, born March 4, 1856, died when quite young; George, born May 31, 1847, died in infancy; Frank, born Jan. 17, 1850, and died an infant; Charles, born March 20, 1852, and died while still an infant.

William Henry Harrison, the subject of this sketch, was born in Chicago, and was about thirteen years old when his father moved to Ringwood Prairie in 1855. A few years previously he had visited his uncle John, and was thus familiar with the log houses and early scenes and incidents of the pioneers. The country then was full of small game and there were but three houses in the village of Ring-

wood. William H. attended school in Chicago under the regime of the old-time pedagogue, who believed in the vigorous application of the "birch" for the most trivial offense. This did not suit young Harrison's disposition and he acquired, under these drastic measures, but little education. After coming to Ringwood he attended school during the winter months, the last winter's term being taught by the veteran teacher, Wm. Nickle. He early began to work on the farm, grew up among the pioneers, and in September, 1866, was married at Ringwood, to Susannah Dean, born in New York State, March 17, 1844, daughter of Richard and Ann (Babbett) Dean, who were of English descent and settlers of Otsego County, N. Y.

Richard Dean was from Kent County, England, came a single man to New York State and married there. His wife came from the same part of England. He landed at Kenosha, Wis., in 1846, and came on foot to Coral Township, where he bought 160 acres of government land. Having brought his family and household goods west, he built a log house on his land and was one of the pioneers of that section. Richard Dean and his first wife were the parents of Sarah A., born Nov. 6, 1833; Richard, born March 19, 1835; Thomas, born Dec. 3, 1836; John James, born July 26, 1838; Mary A., born August 29, 1840, and Susan, born March 17, 1844.

Mrs. Dean died in 1844, aged about forty-seven years, and Mr. Dean afterwards married Mary Brooks and they had children named Henry, born Sept. 3, 1845; Edward L., born Nov. 30, 1847; Rachael B., born April 27, 1861; Maria E., born August 3, 1852; Charles B., born May 16, 1854; Emma F., born May 10, 1858, besides two others who died in infancy. All children of both wives are yet living except as stated above, and Sarah, the oldest child of the first family, who died Oct. 21, 1900. Mr. Dean was a member of the Methodist church, and in political opinion was a stanch Democrat. He was the owner of a large farm and was well known for his straight-forward walk in life. He moved to Sac County, Iowa, about 1878, where he bought an improved farm of 160 acres, and there died.

The deaths in the Dean family are as follows: Ann Dean (first wife) died Sept. 3, 1844; Ed-

ward L., died July 8, 1848, aged about seven months; Mary D., (second wife) died Dec. 6, 1876, aged sixty years, seven months and twenty days. Richard Dean died May 15, 1880, aged sixty-seven years, six months and nineteen days. Henry Dean was a soldier in the Civil War.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harrison settled on the present farm which now consists of 210 acres of fine farming land, very pleasantly located on Ringwood Prairie within a short distance of the village of that name. In political opinion he is a stanch Republican and was a supporter of Lincoln. He is an honored citizen of the township and was a School Trustee three terms.

Mr. Harrison enlisted at Ringwood, May 9, 1864, in the one-hundred-day service under Captain Philip H. Carr as a private of Company A, One Hundred and Forty-first Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. His regiment, however, was held on account of the need of their services until Oct. 10, 1864, stationed much of the time at Columbus, Ky. The Hundred-Day men received the thanks of Abraham Lincoln in a printed testimonial. On February 6, 1865, Mr. Harrison re-enlisted at Ringwood, for service in Company I, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Captain John A. Pratt, and was appointed Corporal. The regiment left for the front, Feb. 21, 1865, and arrived at Dalton, Ga., on March 1. This was the extreme outpost of the Federal army and the regiment was engaged in scouting in Northern Georgia until the surrender of the rebel army. They were in several severe skirmishes. Their marches were as follows: On May 17, they marched from Dalton, Ga., to Resaca; thence to Calhoun, where they remained until July 7, when they went by rail to Albany, Ga., where they remained until November 1. They then marched to Hawkinsville, Ga., where they remained until Nov. 28, 1865, when they were transferred to Savannah, remaining until Jan. 20, 1866. They were honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., Feb. 8, 1866. Mr. Harrison was not a prisoner or sick in hospital during his term of service and was in all the campaigns, marches and skirmishes in which his regiment took part.

The children of William H. Harrison and



wife are: Charles W., Hubert A., John E., Clayton C., Edward E., Ora D., Roy C., and Susan Eva, born May 27, died March 8, 1879.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison are both Universalists in religious belief. Mr. Harrison is a man of high moral character, of sturdy habits and he has never used tobacco. The children all received good common-school educations, and Clayton has been a teacher in the public schools. William H. Harrison has passed nearly all his days on the farm. He and his faithful wife have worked with great zeal and industry to accumulate their property and to bring up their large family. He served his country patriotically as a soldier when needed during the Civil War, and he has always been known as a straight-forward, upright citizen. The seven sons of the Harrison family have never used either intoxicating liquor or tobacco.

#### EDWARD HANCOCK.

Edward Hancock (deceased), a soldier of the Civil War and for many years a respected citizen of Harvard, McHenry County, was born at Scales Mound, Joe Daviess County, Ill., Dec. 3, 1840, the son of Richard and Eliza (Lichtenberger) Hancock. Richard Hancock was a native of Cornwall, England, and a miner by occupation who came, while still a young man, with his parents to Joe Daviess County and worked in the lead mines in the vicinity of Galena. Later in life he became a farmer and, in 1858, bought land in Thompson Township, Joe Daviess County, where he opened up a farm. After the discovery of gold in Australia he made a trip to that country to engage in mining there, suffering shipwreck on the way, but finally returning to his home in Illinois, where he died. His children were: Edward, Julia, Stephen, Louisa, Mary, George and Cora. The parents were members of the Methodist church. Edward Hancock received, while young, a limited education which he afterwards extended in the school of experience. Being the oldest child of the family and about sixteen years of age when his father went to Australia, the support of the family largely devolved upon him. He engaged in lead-mining and also managed the farm, but the Civil War having broken out,

in August, 1861, he enlisted at Galena as a private in Company F, Ninety-sixth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving until June 10, 1865, when he was honorably discharged at Camp Harker, Tenn. He was detailed on duty as a teamster and served as such for some time. He participated with his regiment in many of the most important battles in the South east of the Mississippi, including those of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Resaca, Rocky Face Ridge, Dallas, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, Atlanta, Franklin and Nashville, besides numerous skirmishes. During the Atlanta campaign he was under fire much of the time, both day and night, for four months. He was shot in the heel at Kenesaw Mountain, and in consequence disabled for four weeks. An "ambulance corps" having been organized about the beginning of the Atlanta campaign, he was detailed as one of its members. His company having been drawn up in line, the officer having charge of the organization of the corps selected six of their members for this service, of whom Mr. Hancock was one—the standard of qualification for the service being intelligence, physical strength, personal courage and evidence of a humane temperament. Provided with canvas stretchers, the corps went through a course of training and proved most useful from the start. Their first experience was at Rocky Face Ridge, where, at great personal risk, they carried many dead and wounded from the field. At Kenesaw Mountain, Mr. Hancock and his comrade, George E. Smith, were wounded by the same bullet from rebel sharp-shooters fired at them in violation of the laws of war. During this battle they carried sixteen men from the field to the hospital, a distance of one and a half miles, traveling in twenty hours not less than fifty miles. The reckless and unmilitary conduct of the rebels at Kenesaw Mountain, when members of the corps were exposed to hundreds of rebel bullets while in the discharge of their duty, led later to a better understanding, yet they incurred great risks at the subsequent battles of Lovejoy Station, Atlanta, Franklin, Nashville, and elsewhere, though always ready to discharge their duty by carrying the wounded from the field.



At Lookout Mountain Mr. Hancock was one of the first seventeen men to ascend the mountain during the battle, and was wounded in the hand and had his face grazed by a bullet. He was never in a hospital except for a few days in a field hospital after the affair at Kenesaw Mountain, and was never a prisoner. The Ninety-sixth Illinois was a fighting regiment. Its loss in killed and wounded during the war was 116 and by disease 125—a total of 241. It saw service in Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina. After the war Mr. Hancock located in Chicago where, for two years, he was in the grocery business with Joseph Nourse; later, was engaged in the cattle-trade at the Stock Yards, and for a time superintended track-laying on the Milwaukee Avenue Division of the Chicago Street Railroad Company. Then removing to Gardner, Ill., he superintended a hotel and a brick-yard there and, in 1871, was superintendent of a brick-yard at Thornton. On August 25, 1872, he was married at Warren, Ill., to Hattie C. Going, born at Scales Mound, Ill., the daughter of Adoniram Judson and Mary C. (Clendening) Going. After marriage they remained at Thornton, Ill., until 1873, when he moved to Big Foot Prairie, McHenry County, where he began improving 320 acres of land for which he had exchanged Chicago property some years previous. This land he improved erecting on it substantial farm buildings and bringing it into a high state of cultivation. In March, 1881, he removed to Harvard, purchased desirable town property and, in 1893, erected a pleasant residence in the modern style of architecture—later erecting another residence on an adjoining lot. He was a member of Harvard Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, in which he held the office of Chaplain; held to the principles of the Republican party on national affairs, but, on local matters voted the Prohibition ticket. Mr. and Mrs. Hancock were members of the Methodist church, with which he united in 1873, and of which he was a liberal supporter, serving many years as steward and trustee. Their children were: Zenas Freeman, born Dec. 31, 1871, died at the age of five years; George Raymond, born April 7, 1879; Mary Jessie, born Jan. 3, 1881, died in infancy; Judson Edwin, born Sept. 30, 1883; Harry Lavern, born Nov. 21, 1885,

died aged seven years. Mr. Hancock was a self-made man, from boyhood being dependent upon his own resources. At his death he was the owner of 360 acres of land in McHenry County, besides valuable property in Harvard. He died August 4, 1901. The son Raymond G. attended the State University at Lincoln, Neb., graduated from the Nebraska College of Oratory and, for a time, was before the public as dramatic reader and impersonator. Having a natural talent for oratory, he won many flattering encomiums. He married Miss Antoinette Zimmer, of Nebraska City, and was engaged in the clothing business at Rockford, Ill., until July, 1902, when on account of failing health, he settled on a part of his father's homestead farm. Judson Edwin is a graduate of the agricultural department of the Wisconsin State University and is engaged in farming on the paternal homestead.

Adoniram Judson Going, the father of Mrs. Edward Hancock, was born at Rushford, Allegany County, N. Y., Nov. 17, 1819, the son of Eliab and Sarah (Freeman) Going. Jonathan Going, the father of Eliab, was a Baptist minister in Vermont and a soldier of the Revolution. The son Eliab, born in Vermont, removed to New York at an early day, settling in Allegany County; became a Baptist preacher as his father was before him, and preached in various counties in Western New York—being the first preacher of his denomination in Allegany County as early as 1813. In 1857 he removed to Newport, Ky., but four years later, the war having broken out, he came to McHenry County and began preaching at Richmond. In 1864 he went to Warren, Ill., to live with his oldest son, Adoniram J., and on March 5, 1868, he and his wife celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. At that time he had not lost a single descendant by death, but a few weeks later his son Adoniram J. died, followed in September by the death of another son, John, and on Feb. 21, 1869, by that of his wife. Two days later occurred the death of Mr. Going himself, and he and his wife were buried in the same grave. The children of the family were: Adoniram J., Joshua Bradley, Harriet, Catherine, John and Jedediah Freeman.

Adoniram J. Going, who was the father of Mrs. Hancock, attended an academy in Allegany County, N. Y., and engaged in farming.

In the winter of 1841 he came west and began farming and teaching, but finally located at Scales Mound, where he entered 320 acres of land. In 1863 he moved to Warren, Jo Daviess County, becoming the owner of 320 acres of land there, and dying there in 1868. He was a Free-will Baptist and church deacon several years. His children were Zenas H., Harriet C., Jonathan E., Judson F. and Mary C. In politics he was a Republican. Dr. Zenas H. Going, the eldest son of Adoniram J., is a well-known physician of Chicago, while Judson F. is a lawyer in the same city. Rev. Freeman Going, an uncle of Adoniram, was a Baptist minister and Rev. Zenas Freeman was President of Hamilton College, N. Y. Dr. Jonathan Going was an early President of Granville College, Ohio.

Mrs. Adoniram J. Going was Mary Ann Clendening, born July 19, 1827, in Franklin County, Ohio, the daughter of Jonathan and Caroline (Torrence) Clendening. Her father was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, the son of Jonathan Clendening who came from the vicinity of Harrisburg, Pa., and settled at an early day near Columbus, Ohio, where he opened up a farm. His wife was Sarah Inks, daughter of Jack Inks, and their children, John, Jonathan, James, William, Eva (who died young) and Sarah. Jonathan Clendening was a Presbyterian, and died in Franklin County, Ohio. Jonathan (2), the father of Mrs. Going, was born in Franklin County, Ohio, received a good education and was a local preacher and teacher. His services were much in demand for settling up estates. He married Caroline Torrence, born in Franklin County, Ohio, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Manley) Torrence, both belonging to Vermont families. Jonathan Clendening was a stone-engraver and afterwards a merchant in Ohio, where he lived until 1840, when he removed with his family in a covered wagon to Jo Daviess County, Ill., the journey occupying four weeks. He first settled near Galena, where he remained five years, after which he moved to Scales Mound, entered 160 acres of land there, but ten years later moved to Warren, Jo Daviess County, where he spent the remainder of his life. His children were: Mary, Thomas, Angeline, James, Manley, John and Harmon. Three of the brothers—Thomas, Manley and Harmon—were Methodist minis-

ters belonging to the Rock River Conference at the same time. Manley enlisted as a private soldier in 1861, but was immediately appointed Chaplain of his regiment; later, being honorably discharged, re-enlisted in the Fifteenth Illinois, was commissioned Second Lieutenant, and then promoted over the head of the First Lieutenant to the captaincy of the company. All the sons were engaged in some capacity in the Civil War except Harmon, who was too young.

Mrs. Mary A. Going, the mother of Mrs. Edward Hancock, died at the home of her daughter, in Harvard, McHenry County, Feb. 28, 1903.

#### THE HUNT FAMILY.

The Hunt family, who have from pioneer days been reckoned among the prominent and substantial farmers of McHenry County, according to tradition are of mixed English and Welsh descent. Capt. Ziba Hunt, the first member of the family in America of whom there is any satisfactory record, was born in Connecticut, Jan. 4, 1746, and according to the best evidence obtainable, his father came from England, first settling in Massachusetts, but later removed to Groton, Conn., where he lost his life by drowning in consequence of the upsetting of a boat in Long Island Sound. His widow afterwards married John Partridge, of Connecticut. His son Ziba in early life married Joanna Blount, the daughter of Ambrose and Jonathan (Clark) Blount, and in 1770 moved with his family to Lebanon, Columbia County, N. Y. He was a tanner and shoemaker by trade, and also served several campaigns in the Revolutionary War, but later became a resident of Northampton, in Fulton County, N. Y., where he died, Sept. 10, 1820, in the seventy-fifth year of his age. His wife, who was born Sept. 25, 1848, died at Edinburg, N. Y., March 12, 1825, in her seventy-seventh year. They had a family of eight sons and five daughters, viz.: Asa, Tryphena, William, Asa (2), Lemuel, Sarah, Elijah, Walter, Joanna, Ziba, Jr., Mehitabel and George. All except the oldest lived to years of maturity, and all reared large families, except Ziba, Jr., who was married twice but had no children. Omitting reference to the lateral branches with which this sketch has nothing to do, the next in descent of the



line to which the immediate subjects of this sketch belong, was George, the youngest of this family, who was born at New Lebanon, N. Y., in 1791, and married Elizabeth Deming, Oct. 15, 1809. In 1836 he moved to Albany. He was a farmer and during the War of 1812 served as captain of a military company; was also a Justice of the Peace of the town of Day, N. Y., for fourteen years, besides filling other offices of trust and responsibility. He was an active member and a deacon in the Baptist church, and having a natural aptitude for music, was leader of the church choir and also active in Sunday-school work, establishing a number of schools in his own and adjoining districts. He died at Albany, N. Y., Oct. 7, 1876, in his eighty-fifth year. His wife's sister, Susanna, became the wife of George Hunt's brother Walter. Mrs. George Hunt died at Albany, May 9, 1875, in her eighty-third year.

Charles Hunt the son of George Hunt, and next in line of descent, was born at Northampton, N. Y., May 26, 1812, and after teaching several terms, at the age of twenty-one engaged in mercantile business at Day, N. Y. A year later he moved to Orangeville, N. Y., where, Oct. 10, 1834, he married Minerva Middick, who was born March 22, 1815. In 1837 he moved to Albany, N. Y., and in the summer of 1839 came to Alden, McHenry County, Ill., where he engaged in farming. Twelve years later (1851), having removed to Big Foot, on the border of Wisconsin, he there resumed the mercantile business. His wife having died here Feb. 13, 1854, on October 9, 1855, he was married to Sarah Porter as his second wife, and soon after moved to Chemung, McHenry County. About eight years later he removed with his family to Berlin, Wis., where he engaged in the boot and shoe trade, finally dying there June 9, 1872. Mr. Hunt's second wife, Sarah Porter, was born Oct. 4, 1819, and died Sept. 10, 1871. Nine children were born of the first marriage, viz.: George W., born at Orangeville, N. Y., July 16, 1835; James M., born at Albany, N. Y., Nov. 21, 1837, died Sept. 9, 1839; Byron E., born at Big Foot, Ill., Dec. 24, 1839; Julia E., born at Alden, Ill., Dec. 17, 1842, died Jan. 4, 1848; John M., born at Alden, July 17, 1844; Charles E., born at Alden, April 29, 1846; Mattie M., born at Alden, September, 1848; Mary D., born at Alden, March 7, 1850, died April 3,

1876; Oliver P., born at Alden, Nov. 18, 1851, died at Big Foot, March 8, 1854; Candace C., born at Big Foot, Ill., Jan. 27, 1854, died Sept. 22, 1854. There was one son by the second marriage, Franklin P., who was born at Chemung, Ill., April 24, 1858.

George W. Hunt, the eldest son of Charles Hunt, born at Orangeville, Genesee County, N. Y., July 16, 1835, at four years of age came with his parents to McHenry County, Ill., was educated at Milton College, and was engaged with his father in the mercantile business at Big Foot, Ill. On March 31, 1859, he married Miss Louille M. Parker, of Hebron Township, McHenry County, and soon after began farming on a part of the Parker estate. As a farmer and stock-raiser he proved quite successful and finally established a business that placed him in the front rank of the stock-raisers and farmers of McHenry County. Social, generous and sympathetic in temperament, he was strictly just and upright in all his dealings. As a citizen he was public-spirited and was one of the active promoters of the organization of the McHenry County Agricultural Society and one of the principal exhibitors of fine stock at its annual fairs. He also filled a number of public positions and, at the time of his death, was Justice of the Peace for his town. His death occurred Sept. 9, 1882. Mr. George W. Hunt's children were: Carlton C., born on Oak Grove farm, near Hebron, McHenry County, April 23, 1860; George A., born same place, Jan. 4, 1863; Mary D., born same place, Nov. 10, 1865, died near Woodstock, Nov. 21, 1880; Byron E., born on the homestead, Nov. 18, 1867; Libbie E., born same place, Oct. 23, 1870, married Frank M. Barber of Greenwood, and they have two children—George H. and an infant unnamed.

Carlton C. Hunt, the oldest member of this family, now one of the managers of the "Oak Grove Farm" in Hebron Township, McHenry County, received a good common-school education, attending the district school during the winter months while assisting his father and receiving his training on the farm in the summer. After his father's death in the fall of 1882, he entered into partnership with his brother George for the continuance of their father's business under the firm name of "Hunt Brothers," and they are now widely known among the leading stock-breeders of McHenry



County. Carlton C. Hunt was married, March 9, 1895, in McHenry County, to Blanche E. Merchant, who was born in Harrison, Winnebago County, Ill., May 14, 1878, the daughter of Alva and Mina (Cunningham) Merchant. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt are the parents of the following named children: Leslie Raymond, born June 9, 1895; Mina Grace, born June 6, 1897; Blanche B., born May 26, 1899; Edith May, born Feb. 14, 1901; George W., born Feb. 18, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt are members of the Methodist church, and in political belief Mr. Hunt is a staunch Republican. He is also a member of Woodstock Lodge, Royal Arch Masons, and of Hebron Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Practical and energetic in his habits, his success has demonstrated that he has been guided by intelligent methods and up-to-date ideas in his business career.

GEORGE A. HUNT, brother of the preceding and member of the firm of Hunt Brothers, was reared on the farm and educated in the public schools. As his father and brother have done before him, he has always taken an active interest in matters relating to agriculture, horticulture and stock-raising. For three years (1898-1901) he served as President of the McHenry County Farmers' Institute. In 1890 he was elected a Director of the State Farmers' Institute for the Eighth Congressional District, and has twice represented McHenry County with a comprehensive exhibit of the agricultural, horticultural and dairy products of the county, at the Illinois State Fair at Springfield, winning first prize on both occasions. He was also the originator of the Farmers' Institute educational excursions, combining recreation with instruction, and these have not only proved popular but instructive as well, being attended by the most progressive farmers in McHenry County. The first of these excursions was made to the University of Wisconsin at Madison, in 1901, and the second to the University of Illinois at Champaign, in 1902. On these occasions the experimental stations, with their different departments, were explained to the visitors by specialists in charge. Mr. Hunt has written a pamphlet on the resources of McHenry County, which is of value to all seeking information on this subject. At the annual meeting of the McHenry County Agricultural Board, held Dec. 1, 1902, he was elected Secretary of the Society, a position which he now holds.

#### GEORGE H. HARRISON.

George H. Harrison, farmer, Ringwood Township, McHenry County, is descended from English ancestry for many generations identified with Yorkshire. Robert Harrison, the grandfather of George H., was born in the village of Lorkfleet, Yorkshire, in 1788, in the house which had been the home of his father and his grandfather. He was the oldest son of the family and, according to tradition, was left in comfortable circumstances at his father's death. About 1807 he was married in a church, either at Blackcroft or at Howden, Yorkshire, to Jane Crissey, who was a native of Yorkshire, and they had eleven children, of whom eight lived to years of maturity and came to America, where they were prominent and substantial citizens. Robert Harrison engaged in the stock business in his native country and was accustomed to exhibit fine stock at the public fairs. In 1844 he came with his wife to America, where his three sons had previously settled, and about 1857 died at the home of his son Richard, in Greenwood Township, McHenry County, at the age of sixty-nine years. His wife died at the home of her oldest daughter, Mrs. Mary Thompson, aged about eighty-two. In their native country they were both members of the Church of England.

Richard Harrison, the oldest son of Robert, was born April 22, 1808, in the old home at Yorkshire, England, where at least four generations of the family had lived before him. He received a limited education in his native country and followed the life of a farmer. In 1830, at the age of twenty-two years, in company with five other young men as shipmates—two of these being brothers, Nicholas and James Hewson, besides William Woodall and two others—he came to Canada and settled at Bytown (now Prescott) on the St. Lawrence River. He was thus the first of his father's family to cross the ocean to the New World. He remained at Bytown about twelve years, being employed in farm-work and, for a time, in the lumber business. In the latter he was greatly trusted by his employers on account of his honesty and good judgment. During a part of this time he was entrusted with the buying of wheat and had charge of an outfit of teams engaged in hauling provisions and other supplies for the use of employes in the lumber camps 170 miles north of Prescott, the

greater part of this distance being through a wilderness of pine forests. The sleigh-trains traveled from one lake to another until they reached the camp located in a forest of Norway pine, which was cut for ship-timber and rafted down the Pistawane River to Prescott, where it was manufactured into lumber. Mr. Harrison was also employed for a time in the construction of the Welland Canal, and during the Canadian rebellion of 1837 was drafted as a soldier for the defense of the Government. Richard and his brother John were both employed in the construction of steamboats for the British Government, whip-sawing lumber used in building the "Sir Robert Peel," which was captured by the rebels and burned in retaliation for the destruction of the American steamer "Caroline," which was set on fire and sent over the falls. Richard was in the battle which occurred at the mill where he had been employed, and in which the Government forces were at first repulsed, although they finally succeeded in dispersing the insurgents.

In 1842 Richard Harrison came to McHenry County, Ill., bringing with him a capital of \$500, and soon after purchased eighty acres of land, upon which he erected a log-cabin and put up several stacks of hay cured from the natural prairie grass. He then sent for his wife, Hannah, to whom he had been married in Canada, and she came to McHenry County, bringing with her their two children, Robert and Jane. His wife having died a few years afterwards, in January, 1851, he was married in Greenwood Township to Catherine Dodge, who was born in New York State, May 31, 1819, the daughter of Jonathan and Hannah (Brown) Dodge. Hannah Brown, the mother of Mrs. Harrison, was of Holland-Dutch stock, born in New York in 1778, and died at the Richard Harrison home, April 4, 1869, aged about ninety-three years. Jonathan Dodge, the father, belonged to an old New York State family. The childhood of Catherine Dodge was spent in Sullivan County, N. Y., her home, for a time, being at White Lake. In 1845, in company with her mother, her brother, John Dodge, and her half-brother, L. B. Pratt, late of Greenwood, she came to Illinois, making the journey by way of the lakes to Kenosha, Wis., and arriving at Richmond, McHenry County, on July 3. After her marriage to Mr. Harrison they settled on what is now known as the Har-

rison homestead. Their children were: George H., the subject of this sketch, born Oct. 3, 1851, and Hannah L., who became the wife of E. G. Howe. Richard Harrison was a man of sturdy character, and he and his wife in their time were among the substantial citizens of McHenry County. He was a Republican in politics and held various local offices, including those of Commissioner of Highways and School Director, filling the former position for nearly twenty years. He lived to the age of seventy-six years, dying Sept. 5, 1884, in the village of Ringwood, where he had resided after retiring from the farm. His wife, who was familiarly known as "Aunt Katie," died at the home of her son, George H., Dec. 7, 1896. She was a member of the Presbyterian church, and one of the most widely known pioneer women of her section.

George H. Harrison received his education in the common schools of his locality, and in boyhood began working on the farm. On Jan. 20, 1880, he was married in Mercer County, Mo., to Mary Ellen Brush, who was a native of that county, born March 26, 1862, the daughter of Louis and Harriet L. (Wood) Brush. Mrs. Brush was the daughter of Amos and Millie (Hill) Wood. The Hill, Wood and Brush families all came from New York to McHenry County in pioneer days, but later became residents of Missouri. Louis Brush first settled in Hebron Township, where he worked for Robert Stewart seven years; married Harriet L. Wood, the daughter of Amos and Millie Wood, after which he spent some time in Wisconsin and in Fayette County, Iowa, removing thence to Mercer County, Mo., where he bought 200 acres of land, and where he lived until his death. His children were: Millie, Charles F., Milo E., Mary E., Wilbur and Walter.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. George H. Harrison settled on land belonging to his father, where they lived one year, when they removed to the farm where he now resides, consisting of 240 acres, which his father had bought in 1879. He has made extensive improvements here, building a large barn in 1899, with his substantial frame residence making one of the most pleasant homes in McHenry County. He has also added to his land until he is now the owner of 376 acres. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, namely: Lena H., born Nov. 29, 1881; Raymond R.,



born July 19, 1885; Walter Brush, born Feb. 19, 1887; Grace B., born Dec. 19, 1889; Edward G., born Sept. 28, 1894; Florence C., born July 3, 1897, died May 3, 1899; Lora M., born Nov. 19, 1900. Politically Mr. Harrison is a staunch Republican and, by his successful career as a practical farmer, has established a reputation as a capable business man of high integrity.

#### CHARLES HARRISON.

Charles Harrison (deceased), pioneer settler and respected citizen of McHenry County, was born at Yorkfleet, Yorkshire, England, June 16, 1830, the son of Robert and Jane (Crissey) Harrison. In the summer of 1845, at the age of fifteen years, he came with his father to America, and soon after reaching Chicago, the latter settled with his family in Ringwood Prairie, McHenry Township. Here the son attended the district school, meanwhile working on the farm, and, while still a young man, bought land of his brother John, upon which he built a house and made other improvements, becoming the owner of a farm of 200 acres. July 1, 1856, he married Mary E. Rockwood, who was born Jan. 19, 1837, in Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt., the daughter of John and Lucinda (Kimball) Rockwood. After marriage he and his wife lived on his farm for five years, when, in the spring of 1861, he moved to the village of Ringwood, where he engaged in the business of buying and selling stock. A few months later he enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War, in Company H, Eighth Regiment, Illinois Cavalry, and was mustered in at St. Charles, Kane County, Sept. 18, 1861, soon after receiving his commission as First Lieutenant of his company, dating from time of organization and muster-in of the regiment. The Eighth took part in the Peninsular campaign in the first advance of the Army of the Potomac, under General McClellan, against Richmond. Lieutenant Harrison was honorably discharged from the service on May 22, 1862, when he returned to his home in McHenry County. He then became Station Agent at Ringwood for the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad, now a part of the Chicago & North-Western system, to which was added the position of agent for the Merchants' Union Express Company, continuing in this business until his death, which occurred

April 25, 1891—a period of over twenty-five years. Mr. Harrison was a staunch Republican in politics, but in no sense of the term a seeker for office. He was a member of Lodge No. 158, A. F. & A. M., and by his probity of character and sterling habits enjoyed in a high degree the respect of the community. His children were: Clyde R., born April 18, 1858; Lucy Helen, born Oct. 29, 1859, died July 11, 1864; Frank Porter, born Sept. 3, 1861; Phil Sheridan, born May 8, 1863; Elon Farnsworth, born Dec. 13, 1870, and Scott Hayes, born Nov. 11, 1874.

John Rockwood, the father of Mrs. Harrison, was born at Fitzwilliam, N. H., the son of Samuel Rockwood. The family was of New England and Puritan ancestry, and the son, having received a common-school education, became a wheelwright by trade. He married at Rutland, Vt., Lucinda Kimball, who was a native of that place and of colonial stock. John Rockwood worked at his trade in Pittsford for some years, but in 1844 removed to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes to Chicago, and thence, by the old Wheeling road, to McHenry. The roads of those days were exceedingly rough, and travel with vehicles, through sloughs and over corduroy bridges, often difficult. After his arrival in McHenry County, Mr. Rockwood settled one-half mile south of Ringwood, where he bought 400 acres of unimproved land from parties who had entered it from the Government. Here he built one of the first houses in that part of the county, and finally opened up a large farm, becoming a well-to-do citizen. He was an old-line Whig and served as the first Overseer of the Poor for his township. He was a member of the Congregational church at Ringwood, of which he was one of the founders, and assisted to build the church edifice of that denomination there. He was twice married; his first wife having died at Pittsford, Vt., left children named as follows: Clarissa C., Lucretia, Bernard B., John F. and Mary E., besides two who died in infancy. He married as his second wife Delia Cummings, who bore him children named Lucy Helen and Emma F. Mr. Rockwood was a reputable citizen. He died Dec. 20, 1874.

Phil Sheridan Harrison, son of Charles Harrison, whose sketch appears above, was born



in Ringwood, McHenry County, and attended the public school there, after which he took a course in the Commercial College at Aurora, Ill., where he graduated in 1883. He then attended the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind., and in 1892 began teaching in the Cole District in Burton Township, McHenry County, remaining two years. His subsequent experience as a teacher has embraced two years in the Bassett School, McHenry Township, three years at Solon Mills, and, at the present time (1903), he is passing his fifth year in the Greenwood Graded School, where he has one assistant. Mr. Harrison was married at Woodstock, July 5, 1898, to Matie Clark, who was born Oct. 16, 1877, the daughter of Philander W. and Rebecca J. (Mathews) Clark. Mr. Clark (who is now deceased) was a farmer near Woodstock. Mr. and Mrs. Phil S. Harrison have two children: Lucy Helen, born Jan. 15, 1900, and Henry Simpson, born August 11, 1902. Mr. Harrison is a Republican in politics and has won a reputation as a practical educator of decided ability and high character.

Clyde R. Harrison, the oldest son of Charles Harrison, married Nellie Durkee, of Lake Geneva, Wis., and they have five children: Harris D., Charles I., Rose E., Dhu Anna O. and Eleanor L.

Frank Porter, another son of Charles Harrison, married Edith E. Walker, of Davenport, Neb., and they reside in that State.

Elon F. married Mae McDonald, and they reside in Ringwood, McHenry County. They have three children: James Dewey, born April 5, 1898, died March 21, 1899; Leon Kirk, born Dec. 7, 1899, and a daughter, Arlene, born July 26, 1903.

Scott Hayes, the younger son, lives at the family home.

#### EDSON G. HOWE.

Edson G. Howe, farmer and respected citizen, Greenwood Township, McHenry County, is descended from English and colonial New England ancestry. His father, Warren D. Howe, was born at Danville, Vt., August 9, 1826, received a common-school education and, during his life, followed the occupation of a farmer. He married at Danville, Vt., Amanda Estabrook, who was born in 1824. After mar-

riage he settled on a farm near Danville, whence some years after he removed to Lowell, Mass., but remained there only one year, when he returned to his native place. Here he remained until about 1860, when in the fall of that year he removed to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in McHenry village. A year later he moved onto a rented farm in Nunda Township, where he spent seven years, then spent one year in Burton Township, finally locating in Greenwood Township, where he lived up to the time of his death, which occurred April 27, 1899. Mrs. Howe died Nov. 28, 1893. In political opinion Mr. Howe was an early Democrat, but later in life co-operated with the Republican party. He was also, for a time, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Mr. and Mrs. Howe were the parents of the following named children: Elmore W., born July 25, 1849; Edson G., born Jan. 18, 1851; Elizabeth S., born Dec. 12, 1853; Ora H., born Dec. 3, 1858; Herbert J., born July 6, 1860; Eugene W., born Jan. 23, 1863; Clara B., born Oct. 17, 1865; Leslie F., born Jan. 17, 1868.

Edson G. Howe, the subject of this sketch, was born at his father's Vermont home, near Danville, in that State, which was the birthplace of the five older children. When he was about ten years of age his father removed to McHenry County, as already stated, and here he grew up, receiving a common-school education, and becoming a farmer, as his father was before him. For some eight years he was employed at farm work by the month. On Jan. 15, 1879, he was married in Greenwood Township, to Hannah L. Harrison, who was born on the Harrison homestead, Jan. 19, 1853, the daughter of Richard and Catherine (Dodge) Harrison. After marriage Mr. Howe settled on a rented farm in Dorr Township, remaining one year, when he returned to Greenwood Township, and a year later located on the Harrison homestead, consisting of 280 acres handsomely situated in Greenwood Township. This farm he managed as a tenant until the death of Mr. Harrison, when it descended by inheritance to the daughter of the latter, Mrs. Howe. Mr. and Mrs. Howe are the parents of three children: Edson Leroy, born August 5, 1882; John Ora, born March 19, 1885, and Floyd Elan, born May 16, 1889, all of whom have received good common-school educations, and

still reside with their parents. Mrs. Howe died Jan. 23, 1894, aged forty years and four days. She was a woman of many virtues. (For sketches of Mrs. Howe's parents, Richard and Catherine (Dodge) Harrison, see sketch of their son, George Harrison, elsewhere in this volume.)

In political opinions Mr. Howe is a Republican, and has always taken a deep interest in questions of local and public importance. For ten years past he has been a School Director in his district. A man of industrious habits and high character, he enjoys an excellent reputation in the community in which he resides.

#### FRED ELLIOT HOLMES.

Fred Elliot Holmes, newspaper editor and proprietor, Richmond, McHenry County, is a descendant of New England Puritan stock. His father, Charles Henry Holmes, was born on the Island of Nantucket, July 18, 1827, received a common-school education and, while still young, began working in a cotton-mill, an occupation which he pursued through life. He was twice married, by the first union having one daughter, named Ellen M. He married as his second wife, in Boston, Mass., June 5, 1860, Emma Twitchell, who was born in Dublin, N. H., Jan. 11, 1834, daughter of Joseph and Hannah (Greenwood) Twitchell. Her father was a son of Joshua Twitchell, who was born in Sherborn, Mass., March 4, 1753, and married Sarah Cozzens, born August 12, 1757. They settled at Dublin, N. H., where Joshua Twitchell died in 1829. Their children were: Abijah, Sallie, Joshua, Ebenezer, Joseph and Timothy. Joseph Twitchell, of this family, was born in Dublin, N. H., Sept. 16, 1786, became a farmer, and married, Dec. 22, 1814, Hannah Greenwood, born July 1, 1791, the daughter of Joshua Greenwood. Their children were: Rufus (died in infancy), Horace, Julia, Elliot, Rufus (2), Lewis, Sarah, Sidney and Emma. After marriage Charles H. Holmes, the father of Fred Elliot, went to Canton, Mass., where he worked in a cotton-mill for a time, but soon after removed to Milford, N. H., where he became overseer of a department in a mill there. While absent from home he was overtaken by death, May 29, 1874, at the age of forty-seven years. He was a Democrat po-

litically, of industrious habits and of straightforward character.

Charles H. Holmes left one son, Fred Elliot, the subject of this sketch, who was born in Milford, N. H., Feb. 18, 1863, and graduated from the Milford High School at the age of sixteen years. He then went to Plymouth, Mass., where he was employed as bookkeeper in a large shoe factory belonging to a Boston firm. Here he remained until 1881, when he came to McHenry County, Ill., and rented a farm near Ringwood, which he operated for three years. He then rented a farm in the east part of Richmond Township, upon which he remained five years. In 1889 he bought of Frank Carr a half-interest in the "Richmond Gazette," the remaining half-interest, belonging to Mr. Carr, being purchased a year later by Mr. P. K. Wright—the firm now being Holmes & Wright. Mr. Holmes is an able writer and capable editor, and the "Gazette" under his management is one of the most successfully managed newspapers in McHenry County. Nov. 2, 1893, Mr. Holmes was married to Alvena Mary Alfs, born in Richmond, McHenry County, Jan. 17, 1868, the daughter of George W. and Gertrude (Lehrmann) Alfs. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes have two children: Ella May and Emma G. Mr. Holmes is held in high esteem in the community, has filled the office of Town Clerk for the past five years, has served as President of the Village Board of Trustees and, in 1901, was a member of the McHenry County Board of Review. He also served one year as Vice-President of the Illinois State Press Association. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic order and a Past Master of Richmond Lodge, is a member of the Eastern Star and of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a gentleman of undoubted integrity, of genial manners and of much personal popularity.

George W. Alfs, the father of Mrs. Holmes, was born Dec. 11, 1839, at Westphalia, Germany, in 1845, came with his parents to the United States and settled at Wheatland, Kenosha County, Wis. November 21, 1865, he married at Rockford, Ill., Gertrude Lehrmann, came to Richmond, McHenry County, in 1867, and, in May, 1869, started in the shoe business at the location and in the same building which he has occupied for thirty-three years. His father died in 1856, and his mother in 1891. In poli-



tics he is a Republican, and a reliable business man. Mrs. George W. Alfs was born in Westphalia, Germany, Feb. 4, 1845, and came to the United States in 1852 with her parents, who settled at Kenosha, Wis. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Lehrmann, are both living at New Munster, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Alfs have had two children: Alvena Mary, now Mrs. Fred E. Holmes, and Annie G., who is deceased.

#### CHARLES A. HERRINGTON.

The Herringtons—or Harringtons, as the name was originally and is still spelled by the most numerous branch of the family—are of regular English descent. The christian name of the founder of the American branch of the family is unknown at the present time, but according to tradition, he left Exeter, England, with his wife and one son, named Job, some time during the reign of Charles I. on account of the religious persecution prevailing at that period. Sir James Harrington, who was an officer of the King and a brother of the original emigrant of that name, assisted the latter, in company with a party of Puritans, to escape to America, by aiding them to fit out a vessel and seeing that it got safely to sea. Their point of embarkation is now unknown, but is believed to have been other than a regular port, in order that the Puritan passengers might avoid being detained by the royal authorities. The story is that the voyage was a stormy one, headwinds preventing the vessel from entering Boston harbor for some time, during which the original emigrant of this branch of the Harrington family lost his life by drowning in the harbor.

The son Job, already mentioned, then became the first male member of the family to land on American soil and the head of the family from which the subject of this sketch traces his line of descent. Being but a boy when he landed at Boston, he was taken in charge by an uncle, of whose history nothing is known except some facts connected with the treatment of his youthful relative, which had an important influence upon the future of the latter. It was when young Harrington was about sixteen years old that the excitement growing out of the opposition of Roger Williams to the system of New England theocracy

and his final banishment, which resulted in the establishment of the independent colony of Rhode Island, was at its height. Being a diligent reader of the Bible and of an independent temperament, he came into full sympathy with the more liberal views of Williams and his associates. The uncle, who was a stern Puritan, finding his nephew one day reading the Bible in the field when he thought he should have been at work, reprimanded him severely, remarking, "You should not waste your time reading the Bible; the minister will read it for you and explain it as well," adding, "you cannot understand it yourself." Then, having forbidden him to read it any more, he added a warning not to go to hear those Baptist preachers any more, declaring he would whip him if he did. The youthful Puritan, feeling that he had come to America for the privilege of worshiping God according to the dictates of his own conscience, thought it unjust to be denied the right which other Puritans claimed for themselves. So he continued to attend the meetings in spite of the threatened punishment, which he finally received on his bared back. Then, having gathered together his best personal effects in a handkerchief, he started alone, without fire-arms or provisions, to make the journey through a savage and trackless wilderness to the infant settlement of Roger Williams at Providence, R. I., then called the "Providence Plantations." For a part of the way he followed blazed trails, living on berries and such other products of the forest as he could find, until finally, footsore, weary and almost famished, having found himself in a road, he was overtaken by a Quaker named Wheeden who, with his family in a covered cart drawn by oxen, was traveling in the same direction and with the same purpose—the enjoyment of religious freedom. The kind-hearted Quaker resigned his place in the cart to the exhausted boy, who, when sufficiently recovered, told his story. The journey to Providence was completed by the little party, where they met a hearty welcome and ever after made their homes. After living with the Wheedens for some years, the exiled boy in due time married the oldest daughter of his benefactor, whom he had met for the first time in the ox-cart when rescued from starvation and death in the wilderness. This is the romance of the story. The practical





*Wm C. Herrington*





*Mary T. Herrington*





part is, that Job Harrington was twice married. By his first wife (Miss Wheeden) he had fourteen children, and by his second (who was a Miss Anna Spenser) five more—making a total of nineteen children. Some of the children of the first wife whose names are remembered were: Benjamin, Job, Ebenezer, William and John, and some of those by the second, Anna, Elizabeth, Henry and Christopher.

William Harrington, a descendant of this family, born about the middle of the eighteenth century, was married at Richmond, R. I., Oct. 10, 1771, to Sarah Baker, and they had children born as follows: William, March 15, 1772; Benjamin, Oct. 4, 1773; John H., August 19, 1775; Ezekiel, July 23, 1777; Stephen, May 18, 1779; Mary, March 12, 1781; Ann, Feb. 27, 1783. There seems to have been another son belonging to this family, as in the record of a real-estate transaction the name of Charles Harrington appears on the quit-claim deed of a tract of land which belonged to the estate of his father, William Harrington. William Harrington, Sr., was a soldier of the Revolution and a militiaman of Newport, his residence being at Exeter, R. I.

John H. Harrington, next in line in this branch of the family, was born August 19, 1775, and died Feb. 28, 1864, aged nearly eighty-nine years. He was the first to write the family name "Herrington," as it is now written by his descendants. In his early youth he moved from South Kingston, R. I., with his older brother, Benjamin, who settled in the town of Hoosick, Washington County, N. Y. At eighteen years of age John settled in Union Village (now Greenwich), N. Y., where he worked at his trade as a tailor for more than forty years. Finally purchasing a farm a mile from the village, he engaged in farming. He married Hannah Bentley, born in the State of New York, May 3, 1783, and their children were: Lytle, born Nov. 20, 1804, died Dec. 13, 1834; John, born Jan. 21, 1807, died July 4, 1882; Eliza, born Oct. 3, 1808, died Sept. 15, 1858; Sarah, born Dec. 2, 1810, died Dec. 31, 1837; Bentley, born August 15, 1813, died 1882; Mary, born Oct. 27, 1816, died 1883; Ezekiel, born June 27, 1819; William Cole, born Feb. 26, 1822, died May 4, 1888. Mrs. Hannah (Bentley) Herrington, the mother of this family, died March 24, 1844. Her father, Elisha Bentley, died Feb. 26, 1795, in the sixty-eighth year

of his age, and her mother—who, after the death of Mr. Bentley, became the consort of Daniel Rose—died Oct. 30, 1828, in her eightieth year.

William C. Herrington, the youngest son of John H. Herrington and father of Charles A. Herrington of McHenry County, was born on the date already mentioned, at Greenwich, Washington County, N. Y., and received a good education in the public schools and academies of that locality, the late President Chester A. Arthur being one of his schoolmates. On August 31, 1852, he was married to Mary H. Tanner, who was born in the town of Greenwich, N. Y., July 11, 1830. After marriage he and his wife lived for several years on the premises which had been occupied by his father's family, but later removed to the Tanner homestead, where, for two years, he managed the farm which had belonged to his wife's father, Mr. Tanner. In May, 1858, he removed to Greenwood, McHenry County, Ill., where he bought a farm of 100 acres. For the first winter after coming to McHenry County he taught a select school, after which he engaged in farming, finally increasing the size of his farm to 175 acres located west of Greenwood. In politics Mr. Herrington was originally an old line Whig, but later became a Republican and was an ardent supporter of Abraham Lincoln in his opposition to the extension of slavery and his war policy during the Rebellion. In religious belief he and his wife were Baptists, and at the time of his death members of the Baptist church at Richmond, McHenry County. He was an extensive reader of good literature, especially works of a historical and religious character, in which he was well versed. Intelligent and possessing a reputation for high moral character, he enjoyed the confidence and respect of the community in which he resided.

Mr. and Mrs. Herrington were the parents of six children: Uriaville, born May 23, 1853, died in infancy; Charles A., born August 15, 1855; Dexter E., born June 9, 1859; Sarah E., born June 6, 1864; Emily M., born March 16, 1870, and Mary T.—the two older born at Easton, N. Y., and the others at Greenwood, Ill. Mr. Herrington died May 4, 1888, but Mrs. Herrington still survives in the enjoyment of a rare degree of physical and mental energy. After the death of her husband she spent six

years on the home farm, but has since resided with her children. An affectionate wife and useful helpmate of her late husband, she has ever proved herself a loving and devoted mother to her children. Miss Mary T. Herrington, the youngest daughter of Mrs. Herrington, has had considerable experience as a teacher, but at present is a student in the Pratt Institute, in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mrs. Herrington's father was William Stewart Tanner, son of John and Lydia (Stewart) Tanner, who was born at Greenwich, N. Y., Oct. 27, 1802, and died at Andover, Mass., April 25, 1875. He was twice married; first, at Lake, Washington County, N. Y., to Harriet Carter of Washington County, N. Y., and the second time on March 27, 1836, at the same place to Julia Ann (Green) Wilbur, daughter of Joseph and Eliza (Clark) Green. Mrs. Julia Ann Tanner was born at Providence, R. I., Feb. 2, 1812, and died at Jersey City Heights, Nov. 3, 1880. Harriet (Carter) Tanner, mother of Mrs. William C. Herrington, died August 9, 1830, aged twenty-one years and three months, a year after her marriage. The children of William Stewart Tanner and his second wife were: John Francis, born at Lake, Washington County, N. Y., March 27, 1837; Emily Martin, born March 23, 1839, and William Green, born Feb. 23, 1842.

CHARLES A. HERRINGTON, the son of William Cole Herrington and patron of this work, was born at Easton, Washington County, N. Y., August 15, 1855, and at three years of age was brought by his parents to McHenry County, Ill., as described in the preceding pages. After coming to Illinois he was reared on a farm, receiving his education in the public schools of Greenwood. His life-work has been that of a farmer, in which he has been eminently successful. On Dec. 31, 1892, Mr. Herrington was married to Julia May Parker, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Parker. Mrs. Herrington received her education in the Woodstock High School, from which she graduated in June, 1883.

Since his marriage Mr. Herrington has resided on the Parker homestead and has been the manager of the extensive farm of his father-in-law, consisting of several hundred acres. While thus employed he has given evidence at once of his skill as a practical farmer as well as his ability as a business man. Mr.

Herrington is, withal, a man of much kindness of character and manages his employes without friction and in such a way as to secure the most satisfactory results for both employer and employed. He has held the office of Tax Collector of Greenwood Township, and is held in high esteem as an exemplary citizen, as well as a public-spirited and useful member of the community.

#### THE JOSLYN FAMILY ORIGIN.

The Joslyn family is a very old one. Its history reaches back, even beyond the time of the Emperor Charlemagne, whose daughter married Count Joceline. One of the descendants of this union was Sir Gilbert Jocelyne, who accompanied William, Duke of Normandy, in his expedition for the conquest of England in 1066, and became the founder of the Joslin family in England. He received from William I. extensive territorial grants in the county of Lincoln, among which were the lordships of Sempringham and Tyington. His son Gilbert devoted himself to a religious life and founded the order called Gilbertines, and was canonized a Saint by Pope Innocent III. in 1202.

The younger son, Thomas, married Maude, daughter and coheir of John Hyde, of Hyde Hall, and granddaughter of Baron Sudeley, by which marriage the family obtained that estate which has ever since remained in its possession. One of his descendants married Anne, the heiress of the Percys, and became Duke of Northumberland. Another was a signer of the "Magna Charta." Another is the present Earl of Roden; others have been Bishops and Lord Mayors, etc.

Another of his descendants was Thomas Josseline, who was the founder of the family in America. He came over in the ship "Increase" in 1635, and landed in Hingham, Mass., with his wife, Rebecca, a son Nathaniel, and four daughters, Rebecca, Dorothy, Eliza and Mary. Later an older son, Abraham, who had been left at school, joined the family and they removed to Lancaster, of which they were among the original proprietors and inhabitants. These sons, Abraham and Nathaniel, are doubtless the two brothers mentioned in all traditions, which claim that "two brothers came from England," and that all Joslins are descended from them.





*Chas. A. Herington*





*Mrs. Chas. A. Herrington.*





Thomas Joslin died in Lancaster in 1660. Abraham was a mariner, and was lost at sea in 1670. Nathaniel died in Marlboro in 1694.

Lindsey Joslyn,—or Josselyn, as he spelled the name—is the first of whom we have any account in this direct branch of the family. He undoubtedly descended from Thomas Josselin, the founder of the family in America, who came over in the ship "Increase" in 1635.

Lindsey Joslyn was born August 12, 1749 in the eastern part of Massachusetts. When he was five years of age, his parents, with their children, Samuel, Jabez, Lindsey, Sarah and Joseph, moved to Sheffield, Mass. The Joslyns were mostly iron-mongers. Samuel and Lindsey were iron-bloomers, and soon after the close of the War of the Revolution, went to Poultney, Vt. Lindsey Joslyn married for his first wife Susan Welch in the year 1773, by whom he had six children: Jabez, Abi, Sarah, Lindsey, Alvin and Susan. The first three were born in Sheffield, Mass., and the last three at Poultney. Lindsey Joslyn was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, being frequently called out, and he assisted in the capture of Burgoyne at Saratoga, N. Y., in 1777. His first wife, Susan, died in 1795, leaving besides her other children, an infant daughter named Susan. He married in 1797 the widow of Daniel Richards, by whom he had two children, Joseph and Lucy.

Lindsey Joslyn, Jr., son of the above, was born Feb. 26, 1786, in Poultney. He married Polly Wait, of Granville, N. Y., and, about the year 1814, went to Cayuga County, N. Y., then a very thinly settled region where he engaged very extensively in business. He accumulated a handsome property, but by becoming surety for other parties, lost a large amount. He then removed with his family to McHenry County, Ill. Philip M. Huffman, an aged and respected citizen of Nunda, Ill., and who, as a strong, hardy boy of seventeen, was with the party, thus tells the story of the almost forgotten journey: The Joslyn and Huffman families were in the same party. They left Nunda, Allegany County, N. Y., in Nov. 1837, and went by wagon to Buffalo, N. Y. Here they shipped their horses, wagons and a few household goods, and went by steamer to Detroit, Mich. Thence they traveled to McHenry County with their horses and wagons. The country

through which they traveled was almost an entire wilderness, the settlements being few and far between. The boys walked and greatly enjoyed the journey, as they could easily keep up with the teams. They were hardy, vigorous pioneer boys, expert in all out-of-door sports. Philip Huffman, as well as others of the party, was an expert wrestler, and as they passed through the pioneer villages, they had many skirmishes and fights with the boys, and usually came off victorious. There were four Joslyn boys along with their parents. They were Merritt, Edward, Daniel and Adoniram.

Judge M. L. Joslyn, now of Woodstock, always took an active hand in these encounters. The Joslyns settled about one and a half miles southeast of Crystal Lake and about half a mile east of the Huffmans, on new land. The Joslyns were well known, friendly and hospitable, the pioneer families frequently visiting back and forth.

Lindsey Joslyn was a leading man in the community and died in Elgin, Ill., Oct. 10, 1863, aged over seventy-seven years. His sons were men of ability and made their mark as professional and business men. There was one clergyman, three lawyers and one physician. One of them, Col. Edward Swaine Joslyn, was one of the most prominent and eloquent lawyers in Northern Illinois. His gift of language, his magnificent voice and magnetic manner gave him almost a magical power over a jury. He was Lieutenant-Colonel of the Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, and participated in the battle of Pea Ridge and other important engagements. He possessed many traits necessary to a soldier and was a great favorite with the rank and file. In early times, he was an active supporter of the proposition to pay all expenses connected with the public schools by general taxation, and encountered bitter opposition. Col. Joslyn always referred to this struggle as the greatest in which he ever took part. The old Joslyn family was remarkable in many ways.

#### HON. MERRITT L. JOSLYN.

A pioneer, and for many years one of the foremost lawyers and public men of Northern Illinois, the gentleman whose name heads this article, is renowned throughout the county for

his rugged independence of character, his stanch integrity and his natural eloquence. He is a native of Livingston County, N. Y., where he was born Sept. 10, 1825. When a boy of ten years of age, he walked beside his father's wagon with his brothers, who came as pioneers to the then new settlement near Crystal Lake, Ill. Like many of the younger pioneers of the State, he assisted his father to improve the farm, and gained that practical education in farm-work and in the early schools which many of the most distinguished statesmen of that day acquired. He early began the study of law, and soon the practice of his profession at Woodstock, the county-seat, and when the Civil War broke out, had acquired a reputation for ability and eloquence at the bar, had been elected Mayor of his town and gained a marked influence as a politician, and was chosen a Presidential Elector on the Buchanan ticket in 1856. While Mayor of the town he took a leading part in the organization of the Woodstock Rifles, and was unanimously elected captain. The old muster-roll, now before the writer, shows that William H. Stewart was First Lieutenant and O. S. Johnson, Second Lieutenant, and among the privates were Ira Slocum, Alvin Bunker, J. S. Medler and many other well-known citizens.

The Woodstock Rifles, which was the second company to leave town for the Civil War, was enrolled as Company H., Thirty-sixth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. In the war Captain Joslyn did faithful and gallant service. He was in the hard fought battle of Pea Ridge, in which he commanded his company in a gallant charge. The report of Col. N. Greusel, who acted as Brigadier General during the battle, speaks of "the brilliant charge made by companies H and K, under the commands of Merritt L. Joslyn and J. Q. Adams, which "drove a large force of the enemy like chaff before the wind." Another writer says: "On the top of the hill were posted several regiments of rebels, and our guns were now all engaged in shelling the bluff. Companies H and K were sent forward to dislodge the rebels. Here was the hottest of the fight. Company B and part of Company K fell back, while Company H and the rest of K stormed the bluff, and the battle was over." In this short but terrible fight, five men fell. Orrin Pickett, since

dead; C. M. Kimplin, shot in the neck; Alvin Bunker, shot in the leg; Charles Owles, shot in the foot, and Jackson Conner, shot in the shoulder by a shell.

"It was at the battle of Pea Ridge Capt. Joslyn was ordered to march with the companies under his command, scale a certain point and attack the rebel sharpshooters, who were picking off our men as fast as they appeared. They charged as ordered, but on arrival at the base of the hill, found it a perpendicular rock and the ascent, as ordered, absolutely impossible. For a moment their commander was baffled, but noting the dense woods on either side, he ordered his men to run from tree to tree and endeavor to surround the enemy. In the meantime the order came from headquarters to retreat, but this young captain knew no such word as fail. At the risk of disobeying orders, he pushed on. The rebels, becoming alarmed at this flank movement, fled in confusion; and, to the astonishment of everybody, the stars and stripes were unfurled from the spot that had but just now hurled death and dismay. Captain Joslyn was publicly complimented by General Sigel; a resolution recommending his promotion was forwarded to Governor Yates, and he who went into the war a Democrat came out a Republican."

Entering the service almost among the first to respond to the call for troops in 1861, he served in that gallant regiment, the Thirty-sixth Illinois, and was popular as an officer, serving until his health was broken and he could remain no longer. Then he received an honorable discharge. Returning from the war he was elected to the Twenty-fourth General Assembly from McHenry County. Later he served as Senator during the sessions of the Thirtieth and Thirty-first General Assemblies (1876-80.) Senator Joslyn was in more than one respect one of the most influential and conspicuous members of the Senate during his term of service. He was aggressive, irrepressible—the facetious, ironical, vigilant "watch dog of the Senate" on the Republican side. Nothing of a dangerous or doubtful character in the way of legislation escaped his unflinching vigilance, or his brilliant humor and withering sarcasm by way of condemnation. The following extracts are from contemporaneous newspapers:





*W. L. Joslyn*



"His affection, eloquence and wit are wonderful and inspiring. No matter how drowsy or apathetic the grave Senators may have been over monotonous legislation, or after sumptuous dinners, when Senator Joslyn takes the floor, in support or in denunciation of any measure whatever, immediately the body becomes all animation, and the most rapt attention was bestowed upon him. In addition to these brilliant faculties, he is one of the most industrious Senators in pushing needful legislation, both in committee and on the floor of the Senate. He is a very active and useful member of the following committees: Judiciary, Municipalities, Federal Relations and Elections; and has already offered the following bills for enactment: 'To regulate the practice of medicine and surgery,' 'To amend the law relating to Railroad Commissioners,' and 'To abolish the Board of State House Commissioners, and transfer their duties to the Secretary of State.' His speeches thus far, on the more important acts of pending legislation, were remarkable for their logic, force and effectiveness. He represents his constituents and the State well and ably, and need have no fear of his record thus far before the people.

"When he introduced the bill providing for the doing away of the pernicious legislative pass, it was supposed that the Senator lacked earnestness and simplicity, and had a purpose in view. This annoyed Joslyn, and he denounced the insinuation as wicked. Said he, 'My purpose is to provide for short legislative sessions.' 'Free passes,' he said, 'prolong them.' His bill provided that members of the General Assembly, be fined \$500 and their seats be vacated, should they be found guilty of accepting any such favors.

"Senator Joslyn proposes to place the matter of railroad supervision in the hands of State officers, who are the elected and necessary servants of the people, as well as men of character and standing. This course, if adopted, will save \$10,000 per annum to the people of the State, and insure a more efficient and honest discharge of the trusts confided to the care of our Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners.

"Another matter which we have observed Mr. Joslyn has taken hold of in earnest, is the rascality practiced by the Union Stock Yards Company, of Chicago."

The above represents but a tithe of the reform measures introduced and strenuously advocated by Senator Joslyn. He was untiring while a member of the Senate, in his fearless advocacy of any measure that he believed to be right. He is described at this period of his life as follows: "In appearance Senator Joslyn is a little above the medium height, portly and commanding, with dark hair and complexion and full, dark whiskers."

Judge Joslyn served his party with so much effectiveness and distinction that he became a recognized leader. He was a strong personal friend and partisan of John A. Logan, and supported him with great force for the United States Senate. In 1882 he was appointed by President Chester A. Arthur as Assistant-Secretary of the Interior. His course in this important office is best illustrated from the Washington and other leading newspapers of the country:

"Assistant Secretary Mr. Joslyn has the reputation of having mastered the details of a great department quicker than any other man on record. Very soon after he came into the department he had the responsibility of the whole thing thrust upon him by Secretary Teller's absence from the city, and he was able to manage things without depending entirely for his judgment, as well as his information, upon the clerks and bureau chiefs."

One of his most conspicuous services, while acting as Assistant-Secretary of the Interior, was his course in regard to the pensions of old soldiers. He was known as the soldier's friend.

"To acting Secretary Joslyn belongs the honor of having broken through the shallow crust of artifice, and brought to the surface the vital elements of equity and justice in the pension law, as it stands today; and our ex-soldiers, we are sure, will not be lacking in the respect and gratitude which should be meted out to him."

The following cases are in point:

"Captain Hargrave, while on his way in an ambulance to a reception given to Gen. Stone-man on July 4, 1865, was thrown out of the vehicle and down an embankment and severely injured. Mr. Joslyn decided that he was in the line of duty at the time of the accident, and that, being a staff officer, he was always on duty. The Assistant Secretary rules that every soldier, whether officer or private, who engages in recreation, joins social gatherings, religious meetings, or any innocent amusement, and is going to or from them with the assent of his superior officer, does not thereby place himself outside of the line of duty.

"A case has just come before Mr. Joslyn in which a soldier had been wounded at Fair Oaks and sent to a field hospital. The records show nothing further. The man's death was not proven, and, under the rules of the department which had been in force twenty-one years, his widow could get no pension. When Mr. Joslyn's attention was called to the matter, he said promptly, that the existing rules were all wrong. When a man had ceased to be heard from for seven years, the common



law presumed him to be dead. It proceeded to administer on his estate as though he were dead, and, if it could do that, it ought to grant a pension to his family; therefore, the old rule was reversed and a pension was ordered issued, from the date, seventeen years ago, when he was last heard of as a patient in the hospital.

"The old ruling had, until this time, worked incalculable wrong. It withheld pensions from the widows and orphans of nearly all Union soldiers who died in rebel prisons; for, in most cases, these unfortunates were buried without any record. That the widows and children of deceased Union soldiers who had died in prison could be deprived of pensions, because the Winders and the Wirtzes did not keep a complete record of their own atrocities, was too glaring an injustice to be maintained."

Here is an important case of apparent desertion:

"In this case, says Assistant Secretary Joslyn, it appears that the soldier was granted permission by his superior officer, to go to his home for the purpose of seeing his wife who was very ill. After his arrival at home his wife died and immediately after her death, and before her burial, the soldier started on his way back, was captured by the enemy and taken to Andersonville prison where he died. At the expiration of his furlough he was entered upon the government records as a deserter. The evidence shows that he was not a deserter, and therefore was in a line of duty, and his family is entitled to a pension."

These are a few of the many instances in which Assistant Secretary Joslyn showed hard common sense and good judgment, tempered by the natural kindness of his heart.

On the Indian question he pursued a like broad and liberal course.

"You can't," says he, "defeat the progress of nature. There are certain laws of civilization which have held good in all time, and chief among these is, that work is the only great influence that changes men from the savage to the citizen. As long as the Indian has a Winchester rifle, and is allowed to roam at his will over vast tracts of land, he will shoot an Indian of another tribe or a white man on the least provocation. The tribal relation must be abolished. Let each man have a portion of land, a stock of sheep and cattle, and tell him he must make enough out of them to live, and he will attend to them and grow better, year by year. In those cases where we have given the Indians stock they have made good breeders and have acquired large amounts. The Indians in the Indian Territory hold lands in severalty, and have many bright and intelligent men among them. The Indians of Wisconsin are of a like nature and are

fitted to become citizens. This system of giving them a theological education, and then putting guns in their hands, is all wrong. It has been a failure throughout, and millions of money has been wasted in putting up buildings and sending out teacher and scientific libraries. It is all wrong. First teach them to work; give them a short practical education if they want it, but let them learn in the fields. There are millions of acres of good land lying idle over which they roam and on which there is little game. Give them stock and teach them to put their land to some use. Pay them for the rest of it that they can not use, and let good white men cultivate it."

Perhaps the most important decision of Acting-Secretary Joslyn, and of the most far-reaching benefit to the soldier, is the following:

"SOLDIERS' OATHS IN PENSION CASES. —Acting Secretary of the Interior Joslyn has rendered a decision of great interest to pensioners namely: That the evidence of the applicant may be received in certain contingencies as complete proof. For the case in which the decision was made, Secretary Joslyn ruled that, as the Government had accepted the soldier, it could not afterwards raise the presumption that he was disabled previous to enlistment, and that his own evidence must be received as to his being injured while in the service."

Returning to his home at Woodstock after his term of service in the Interior Department, Judge Joslyn resumed the practice of his profession, also discharging the duties of Master in Chancery for a time. He is now retired from active practice, however, and in his advanced years enjoys the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens.

Judge M. L. Joslyn and his wife, Mary R. Joslyn, are the parents of the following named children: David Robinson, born Sept. 1, 1866; Julia Catherine, born Jan. 28, 1868, died March 4, 1868; Katie Maria, born May 20, 1870, died Sept. 8, 1872; Marcellus L., born Feb. 6, 1873.

MRS. MARY R. JOSLYN.—This cultured lady was born in Pawlet, Vt., and received her excellent education in Mrs. Emma Hart Willard's celebrated school for young women. Mrs. Willard was then in her old age, but the school was still conducted under her able supervision. She was a famous educator and established the pioneer school of the world for the higher and exclusive education of women in 1818. She also wrote many text-books which were translated into foreign languages. Many young



Mary Robinson Joslyn





women of the best American families were educated by this able teacher. Mrs. Willard was a master of the English language, of classical elegance, and her pupils acquired an accuracy and finish in their native tongue which has rarely been attained in our later collegiate institutions. Here Mrs. Joslyn laid the foundation of her excellence in literature and her love of letters, which has been a prominent feature in her life and a powerful stimulant to her natural attainments.

After completing her education, she returned to her home at Pawlet, where she was married to M. L. Joslyn, of Woodstock, Ill., in 1862, and immediately came to Woodstock, where they have since lived. Mrs. Joslyn, from the beginning of her residence here, took an active interest in literary matters in the higher culture. She was one of the founders and leading members of the Woodstock Literary Society, which, in its zenith, had nearly one hundred members of the best people of the town. Many of those who had the advantage of this local Symposium are still living in Woodstock—among them Mr. E. E. Richards, J. C. Choat, James Casey, Esq., and others whose faces yet light up with pleasure as they recall the literary feasts of this society. The musical, as well as the literary abilities of the people, were stimulated and developed by this society, and nothing in more recent years has arisen to take its place.

Mrs. Joslyn is a pen-woman of easy and graceful style, with a delicacy of sentiment and daintiness of fancy that finds its best objects in Nature's handiworks. She was one of the organizers of the Chautauqua Circle of Woodstock, still taking an active interest in its work, and is always happiest when working along literary lines. She has made Woodstock her home for many years, and scores of the best people know and love her for her graceful attentions and kindly acts. In recent years she has passed much of her time in Southern California, the land of flowers and sunshine. From the "Santa Monica Outlook," we clip an extract from a little poem which she wrote to please her friends of the "Ladies" Afternoon Club."

#### Violets.

Dear little violet, lift your head  
And your sweet eyes of blue;  
If I had only two loaves of bread,  
I would give one to you.

I kneel at your lowly feet and read  
This lesson, most complete;  
To be a friend, like violets,  
We must be true and sweet.

Oh, human friend, you will not learn  
The soul must needs be fed,  
And more are starving for a flower  
Than for a loaf of bread?

From out my store of two, I said,  
I'd give one loaf for you;  
O violet! I'd give them both  
For one so sweet and true.

The following selection is from a poem read at the W. C. T. U. meeting in Woodstock Methodist church, in 1889:

So, like a friend, have come again  
Summer and fragrant flowers,  
With roses for our waiting hands,  
And for our hearts the showers.

And like a story, sweet and old,  
Told o'er and o'er again,  
The shining days repeat themselves  
O'er meadow, hill and plain.

But in this changing world of ours,  
The seasons come and go;  
The blossom and the scarlet leaf,  
And then the frost and snow.

One round of seasons, and this life  
Is ended here below;  
A bud, a flower, a withered leaf—  
And then the drifted snow.

Some only catch a glimpse of May,  
And others stay till June;  
But few there be who linger on  
To see the harvest moon.

These stanzas are from a dainty little poem entitled:—

#### The Robin That Sang in the Rain.

I've often known a faded flower  
Or little tender tune,  
To bring back some delightful hour—  
Some long-forgotten June.

I see the old-time meadow  
And shadows as they pass,  
And bobolinks a-swinging  
On tall and slender grass.

And just beyond the long, cool lane,  
With trees on either side—  
Oh, if I could walk there again,  
I should be satisfied.

O little bird! you fill my thoughts  
And thrill me with your song,  
And make me quite forget the now  
And all these days so long.

Sing on, brave bird, with scarlet breast;  
You've sung my heart from pain;  
Sing into my soul the tender trust  
That helps you sing in the rain.

And here I give you a secret,  
To hide in your scarlet vest;  
Of all the birds that sing or fly,  
I love you, Robin, the best.

Not for the sweet, unconscious way  
You rob my heart of pain;  
Not for the scarlet vest you wear,  
But because you sing in the rain.

Mrs. Joslyn has the true artistic instinct and has had the advantages of instruction by the best artists. Her attractive residence is filled with examples of her art, and they are at once the pride and delight of her friends.

Socially Mrs. Joslyn has been one of the leaders in Woodstock since her residence here, and her beautiful home, with its generous hospitality, has always been open alike to her friends and to visitors to Woodstock, whose characters and reputations required more than perfunctory entertainment. Many notables have been entertained by her, among them Theodore Tilton, Gen. and Mrs. John A. Logan, Robert Collier, Richard J. Oglseby and Gen. Kilpatrick.

It was, however, when in Washington during President Arthur's administration, and when Judge Joslyn occupied the office of Assistant Secretary of the Interior and they were members of the exclusive social set, that Mrs. Joslyn's 'graces and abilities as a society leader were shown to their fullest extent. She entered the highest society in the land with an ease and graciousness that won her recognition in the social world of Washington. Perhaps there never were in this country more

brilliant social functions than those which occurred during President Arthur's administration, which is still remembered for its gayeties.

One of the Washington papers thus announces the departure of Judge and Mrs. Joslyn from that city:

"We are all heartily sorry to lose the Joslyns from among us. He has done more kind and generous things during his Assistant-Secretaryship than any other one official of the last administration, and Mrs. Joslyn is a great social favorite, famous alike for her exquisite toilets, her ready wit and artistic taste and ability."

#### DAVID R. JOSLYN.

David R. Joslyn is a representative citizen of Woodstock and one of the leading attorneys of McHenry County bar. He was born in Woodstock, Sept. 1, 1866, the son of Merritt L. and Mary (Robinson) Joslyn. He received his education in the public schools of Woodstock, including the high school and a fitting school for college at Madison, Wis. Young Joslyn had the great advantages and the early training which a home of culture and refinement alone can give, and which was filled with books and choice literature of which he was a wide reader. When he was fourteen years of age he left school and went to live with his uncle, Dr. M. Baldwin, in Kansas, where he worked on a farm for four years. He then returned to McHenry County and engaged in farming for himself near Nunda on a farm owned by his grandfather, David W. Robinson. Although but eighteen years of age, he successfully managed the farm, keeping a dairy of sixty milch cows, besides horses and other stock. He remained on this farm for four years and then attended school in Madison. He then became a student at the Northwestern University Law School, from which he graduated in 1892, meanwhile reading law in the office of Judge C. C. Kohlsaat, now of the United States District Court. He was then admitted to the bar.

Mr. Joslyn married July 14, 1892, in Chicago, Mary Brownell, who was born in Dayton, Ohio, daughter of James and Amelia (Root) Brownell. After marriage Mr. Joslyn settled with his wife in Hebron Township, McHenry County,



where he bought a farm of 180 acres on which he lived for four years. Mr. Joslyn then practiced law in 1897-98 in Chicago in company with his brother Marcellus, then a recent graduate of Harvard Law School. The firm did a large probate business, but the partnership was dissolved in the fall of 1898, and Mr. Joslyn returned to Woodstock, where he soon established a successful law business and is now one of the well-known attorneys.

David R. Joslyn has won a reputation as an able and fearless advocate, with the further advantage which the winning of the majority of the cases entrusted to him gives to an attorney. He is becoming a factor in the politics of McHenry County, and successfully managed the late campaign of Judge O. H. Gillmore for the office of County Judge. Born and reared a Republican, he has, for the past ten years, been independent in politics and is now an earnest champion of the rights of the laboring man. Although bred in a home of wealth and refinement, at an early age he donned the workman's clothing to become a common farmer. He was thus in early life inured to a life of toil and learned to endure the fatigue of following the plow in the heat of the summer sun. Here he learned to know what labor really is; his long hours of toil, his patient endurance, his narrow and uninviting environments, firmly fixed by a pitiful pittance called wages. That such an experience has its effect on a thinking man's life is undoubted, and its broadening influence results in an abundant sympathy with the toilers, such as Tolstoi felt.

To these early experiences must be attributed Mr. Joslyn's course of action and his sympathies with the late locked-out members of a labor union in Woodstock. He became attorney and adviser for these men and managed their business in an able manner. He was opposed by the prejudices of many of the prominent men of Woodstock, and was shown, in many ways, that his course was unpopular. In taking this position against the advice of many of his friends, Mr. Joslyn has no hope of gaining either money or popularity; yet he was almost their only defender, influenced solely by motives of principle and by his close

sympathies with oppressed labor. Mr. Joslyn represented these men in their negotiations with their former employers and, in several important conferences with prominent labor men representing their organizations, and afterwards assisted in securing employment for many of the locked-out employes. The following extract from the "Elgin Daily News" clearly shows his position in the labor movement:

"WHO ARE FREE MEN?—Men who toil with their hands and possess little property are the only free men. Their courage is not sapped by the constant fear of losing money that assails men of large wealth.

"The birth place of freedom and manliness is in the hearts of toilers. Its cradle and home is in their arms, and never in the history of the world has it thrived in any other place.

"Organization is the spirit of the age. Capital in organization finds an opportunity for maximum profit with the minimum risk, and eagerly avails itself of the opportunity.

"Labor must also organize, for, as above quoted, the time is passed when the individual workman is called upon to put his feeble strength against the might of organized capital.

"Times and methods change and the man who, clinging to the past, sets his face against the world's progress, will surely 'wither away and perish.' "

That David R. Joslyn is a man of natural eloquence is clearly shown by his address at the memorial services held in Woodstock on the occasion of the death of William McKinley. The following is a brief extract:

"The man who, as a ruler of a modern nation, would be accounted great, must possess an intellect of the first rank and that intellect must be softened by modesty; it must be ripened by the sunshine of sympathy; must be touched as readily by the heart-beats and hopes of the humblest citizen, as by the thundering throbs of the mighty engines that turn the wheels of our greatest industry. The wrong that robs the poor man of a dollar must stir in his breast as quick an indignation as the blow that would destroy the piled-up thousands of the millionaire. His victories must be won by winning his opponents, not by destroying them."

David R. Joslyn and his wife are the parents of two children: David Robinson, born Sept. 12, 1893, and James Brownell, born Jan. 22, 1895.



**MARCELLUS L. JOSLYN.**

Marcellus L. Joslyn, son of Judge Merritt L. Joslyn, a lawyer and prominent business man of McHenry County, was born in Woodstock, Ill., and received his early education in the public schools of his native town and at Madison University, Wis. He next attended Notre Dame University, Ind., from which he graduated, when he entered the Law Department of Harvard University, completing his course in law in that institution. Then, returning to Illinois, he was engaged for a time in the practice of his profession in partnership with his brother, David R. Joslyn, in the city of Chicago; but later became connected with the telephone business at Woodstock. This was soon after extended to the furnishing of telephone supplies, including the manufacture of cross-arms for telephone poles, which finally led to the buying of lumber mills and timber tracts for the supply of material, besides contracting for the output of other mills, thus establishing a large and lucrative business. On Oct. 22, 1899, Mr. Joslyn was married at Faribault, Minn., to Alice Cecilia Newell, daughter of George W. and Cecilia Newell. The present residence (1903) of Mr. and Mrs. Joslyn is in the city of Chicago, where his business headquarters are located. Mr. Joslyn has proved himself a sagacious and successful business man of the educated type. He and his wife have two children, named Marcellus Newell, born Feb. 28, 1901, and George Robinson, born Nov. 19, 1902.

**WALTER P. JEWETT.**

Walter P. Jewett (deceased), a pioneer and prominent citizen in his day, of Dorr Township, McHenry County, was of English extraction, the founders of the American branch of the family becoming settlers, at an early day, at Pownal, Vt., where Walter P. was born July 26, 1806, the son of Nathan and Lucy (Perry) Jewett. The children of Nathan Jewett and wife were: Perry, Alden, Walter P., Harry, Nathan, Harriet, Edna, Sarah, Mary, Celinda and Susan. The father, Nathan Jewett, died at his old home in Pownal, Vt. Of his children, all but two—Perry and Harriet—came to McHenry County, Ill. The son Nathan became a Metho-

dist minister, traveled quite extensively and was well known in McHenry County and throughout Northern Illinois.

Walter P. received a common-school education in his native place, became a farmer and, in 1836, removed to Illinois with Samuel Gregory and family, after reaching Illinois making the journey to Rockford with ox-teams. Soon after Mr. Jewett located a claim on Government land on Rock River, but two years later (1838) removed to Dorr Township, McHenry County, where he settled on land now occupied by the Truax family. Here he subsequently entered 400 acres of Government land, then wholly unimproved, and erected upon it the first frame house in that section of the county. In March, 1847, he was married at Woodstock, Ill., to Harriet Caroline Horton, who was born at Hanover Center, Chautauqua County, N. Y., March 26, 1821, the daughter of Jessie and Nancy Caroline (Clark) Horton. Her father, Jesse Horton, was a native of Cheshire, Mass., born Sept. 17, 1796, the son of Isaac and Louisa Horton. The children of this family were Benjamin, Isaac, Jesse, Asel, Achsah, Polly, Louisa and Amanda. The father, Isaac Horton, Sr., died in Massachusetts.

Jesse Horton received a good education for his time, and having adopted the vocation of a farmer, in 1821 removed to Hanover Center, Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm from the woods. Having sold his farm in middle life, he removed to Brant, Chautauqua County, where he bought another farm and erected upon it a good residence, spent here the remainder of his days, dying March 12, 1874, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He was a man of considerable property, a Democrat in politics and prominent in the community. At an early day he held the offices of Road Commissioner and Constable, and was entrusted with the settlement of many estates, often being called upon to act as guardian of orphan children. He was a member of the New York State militia. His wife died at their home in Brant, N. Y., aged seventy-three years. Their children were: Isaac R., Harriet Caroline (Mrs. Walter P. Jewett), Elon L., Louisa, Amanda, Julia A., Emeline, Jessie, Emilus, John (who died aged six years), John (2) and Franklin (who died aged seven months.)

Mrs. Walter P. Jewett remained at her home in Chautauqua County, N. Y., until 1843, when she came west with her friends, Trestham Vincent and family, coming by lake vessel to Milwaukee and thence by team to Cook County, Ill., but in 1846 went to Half Day, Lake County. In March, 1847, she was married to Walter P. Jewett, after which she and her husband settled on his farm in Dorr Township, McHenry County, where they continued to reside until 1857, when they removed to Woodstock. Here they bought property but having sold this out, later bought property on Tryon Street. After settling in Woodstock, Mr. Jewett lived a retired life. He was a man of independent views, a zealous Democrat in politics, and held various town offices, besides being connected with the settlement of many estates, serving as guardian of orphan children, etc. He left a substantial property, including over 400 acres of fine farming land. Mr. and Mrs. Walter P. Jewett had five children, only two of whom lived to years of maturity, viz.: Edna, who was born April 1, 1851, and Emilus C., born Jan. 29, 1854. (See sketch of Emilus C. Jewett). Edna Jewett married William C. Allen, who is a lawyer and real estate agent, at Minneapolis, Minn., and they have two children: Walter Jewett Allen and Harry Horton Allen.

Walter P. Jewett bore a high reputation for personal integrity and force of character.

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#### EMILUS C. JEWETT.

Emilus C. Jewett, banker and Mayor of the city of Woodstock and Treasurer of McHenry County, is a native of Dorr Township, where he was born Jan. 29, 1854. When about three years of age, his parents moved to Woodstock, where he received his education, and which has since been his home. At the age of seventeen years he entered the First National Bank of Woodstock, where he was employed for eight years as clerk. He then engaged in the boot and shoe business in Woodstock, which he conducted successfully for about seven years, when he retired on account of ill health. He then embarked in the stock business for a time, being engaged in shipping horses to South Dakota, but retiring from this, in 1887 became a partner of Mr. E. E. Richards in the abstract

business in Woodstock, in which he became the owner of a half-interest. Two years later (1889) he became one of the organizers of the State Bank of Woodstock, of which he was elected cashier—a position which he has continued to fill to the present time. In 1895 Mr. Jewett, in conjunction with George K. Bunker, E. E. Richards, Burton Wright and C. B. Wright, organized a private bank at Nunda, McHenry County, which was soon after changed to the Citizens' State Bank of Nunda, and has since been successfully conducted. Originally a Democrat in political opinion, in 1896 Mr. Jewett supported Mr. McKinley for the Presidency, as he did again in 1900, and has since been an earnest supporter of the policies of which President McKinley was the representative. His standing in the community is indicated by the fact that he has frequently been called upon by his fellow-citizens to fill various positions of trust and responsibility. In 1876, shortly after attaining his majority, he was elected to the office of tax-collector, which he filled for one term and also served one term as City Treasurer. In 1888 he was chosen a member of the Board of Aldermen for the city of Woodstock, and from 1890 to 1894 served on the Board of Education, filling the office of clerk of the Board. In 1897 he was elected Mayor of Woodstock, and has discharged the duties of that office to the satisfaction of the community for the past six years, as indicated by his successive re-elections. Again in 1902 he was elected to the position of County Treasurer of McHenry County by a large majority, running ahead of his ticket.

Fraternally Mr. Jewett is a member of the Blue Lodge, A. F. & A. M., in which he has held the office of Master. He is also a member of the Chapter and of the Commandery of Knights Templar, in the latter organization being a Past Eminent Commander.

On Sept. 25, 1879, Mr. Jewett was united in marriage to Miss Alice C. Eckert, daughter of Jacob and Eliza (Freeman) Eckert, of Woodstock, Ill. Mrs. Jewett grew up in the city of Woodstock, attending the public schools there, including the high school as well as the well-known Todd Seminary, after which she took a course in the Cook County Normal School from which she graduated. She then taught



for two years at Harvard and Woodstock, proving herself a capable and efficient instructor. Mr. and Mrs. Jewett have two daughters—Jessie E. and Helen A.—both of whom received their early education in the Woodstock public schools, also attending the high school, from which Jessie E. graduated. They are now attending the Downer College, a high-class collegiate institute at Milwaukee, Wis., from which they will soon receive their diplomas.

Mr. Jewett enjoys an enviable reputation for business probity and integrity of character, as did his father before him, and has been frequently called upon to serve as administrator, as conservator or guardian in settling up or caring for estates, or looking after the interests of minors. He is popular among his fellow-citizens of McHenry County, not only on account of his well-known integrity and reliability of character, but for his kindly and courteous treatment of all with whom he comes in contact in either a business or official capacity. Born and reared in McHenry County, and having spent nearly all his life in the city of Woodstock, he has established a local reputation as an efficient and conservative business man that is universally recognized in the community with which he has been so long and so intimately identified.

Mr. Jacob Eckert, the father of Mrs. Jewett, was born in Alsace—then a department of France, but now a part of the Empire of Germany—the son of Jacob Eckert, Sr., March 17, 1818, and in 1836, at the age of nearly nineteen years, emigrated to America, two years later coming to McHenry County, Ill., where he took up land in Greenwood Township, becoming one of the early pioneers of that section. His parents and a brother, Henry, came to McHenry County at a later period. Mr. Eckert first purchased a tract of 160 acres of land, but prospered by his industry and prudent management until he became the owner of 303 acres. On March 18, 1851, he was married in Greenwood Township to Eliza Freeman, who was born at Potsdam, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., April 2, 1831, the daughter of Ashley and Sarah (Dewey) Freeman. Mr. and Mrs. Eckert became the parents of the

following named children: Flora, Dora (who died at the age of six years), Alice C. (Mrs. Jewett), Jesse and Elizabeth. Mr. Eckert became a prosperous farmer, improved his lands, erecting thereon a substantial frame dwelling house, which is still standing, making his holding one of the best farms in his township. In 1866 he moved with his family to Woodstock, where he purchased residence property and a warehouse, and there engaged in the grain-commission business, which he conducted until a few years before his death, which occurred March 3, 1896. He and his wife were communicants of the Congregational church and in politics he was a Republican. He was a man of stanch character and sterling worth, and he and his faithful wife reared an excellent family.

Ashley Freeman, the father of Mrs. Jacob Eckert, of old colonial and English stock, was born in Vermont, the son of Hezekiah Freeman. He settled at an early day in the vicinity of Potsdam, N. Y., where he opened up a farm in a heavily timbered region. He was married twice—first, to Eliza Bates, who bore him children named Oliver, Martha and William. His first wife having died, he married as his second wife, Sarah Dewey, the daughter of Harry and Sarah Dewey. The children by this second marriage were: Eliza, Samantha, Sabra, Henry, Horace, Hattie and a daughter who died in infancy. In 1850, Mr. Freeman's second wife having died, he moved to Illinois with his children, and having bought land in Queen Ann Prairie, Greenwood Township, lived there some years, but later located on another farm in the same township, where he spent the remainder of his days, dying in November, 1855. In politics Mr. Freeman was an old line Whig and an opponent of slavery-extension—would have been Republican had he survived until the organization of that party. He had a good common-school education, and was a reliable and trustworthy citizen.

Mayor Jewett and family reside on Jackson Street, in the city of Woodstock, where he erected a pleasant and attractive home in 1895.

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JOHN JUDSON, WIFE AND FAMILY.



## JOHN JUDSON.

John Judson, a prosperous farmer of Hebron Township, has won his own place in life by sheer pluck and energy, and now, in his eighty-first year, is living upon a comfortable income derived from the accumulated earnings of former years. Mr. Judson is an Englishman by birth and parentage. His father, Henry Judson, was a Yorkshire farmer, as also was his grandfather Judson. Henry Judson was born and reared in Yorkshire, and there, upon reaching manhood, married Eleanor Smith. To Mr. and Mrs. Judson were born three children: William, John, and Mary. In 1830, some years after marriage, Mr. Judson decided to emigrate to America, and, after eight weeks and three days on a sailing-vessel, landed with his family in the city of New York. For a number of years he worked as a day-laborer at Utica, N. Y., then, renting land about seven miles from Utica, he began life as a farmer. Here he spent his last days, dying in 1844. He was a man of industrious and frugal habits and gave his children the best rearing his purse could afford. He and his wife were members of the Episcopal church.

John Judson inherited his father's taste for agriculture, and the large capacity for work necessary to success in that line. Born in Foxhall, Yorkshire, England, Dec. 22, 1823, he was about seven years old when the family emigrated to America, and remembers well scenes in England and the long ocean voyage. He received only a meager education, and at an early age began working on the farm near Utica, N. Y. At Whitesboro, Oneida County, N. Y., Jan. 24, 1844, Mr. Judson married Mary M. Bartlett, who was born at Albany, N. Y., Jan. 27, 1824, the daughter of Crandall and Patience (Wheater) Bartlett. The Wheelers were of Holland-Dutch stock, and the Bartletts, French Huguenots, who settled in Massachusetts in colonial times and intermarried with members of some of the prominent Puritan families. Mrs. Judson's mother, Patience (Wheater) Bartlett, was born in the Green Mountains, the daughter of Richard Wheeler. Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett had three children: John, Sarah, and Mary M. (Mrs. Judson). Mr. Bartlett having died when his daughter Mary

M. was about six weeks old, her mother subsequently married Riley Button, and they had four children: Harvey Alexander, Joanna, Mathew and Ezra.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Judson settled near Oriskany, Oneida County, N. Y., where he worked as a day laborer, receiving a monthly salary. In the hope of bettering his fortune he decided in 1845 to move to Wisconsin, and on May 1st of that year arrived at Linn in that State, where he obtained employment as a farm hand. Shortly after this he pre-empted a 40-acre tract of Government land in Alden Township, McHenry County, which he cleared and put under cultivation. Two years later, having sold his land in McHenry County, he bought an unimproved 80-acre tract in Linn Township, Walworth County, Wis., which he improved and still owns. This he continued to occupy until 1885, when he bought 120 acres in Hebron Township, McHenry County, upon which he erected substantial buildings and made other valuable improvements. Managing both farms, he carried on an agricultural industry quite extensively for many years, and amassed considerable property. His heavy responsibilities, however, began to tax his energies, and in 1893, having sold his McHenry County farm to his son, he settled upon a 43-acre tract in Hebron Township, where he now resides. Through life he has been a careful financial manager, and, in addition to his two farms, now has considerable money at interest.

Mr. and Mrs. Judson have eight children—four sons and four daughters—all of whom are married and have families of their own, viz.: Henry, Sarah, George, Ellen, John, Annie, Mary and Fred. The sons are all farmers and the daughters are married to farmers.

Henry married Emma Burris, and they now reside in Minnesota, and have six children.

Sarah married John Niver, a farmer, who is now deceased, leaving two children.

George married Ellen Burris, and they have one child. He is a farmer and fraternally a Mason.

Ellen married George Markham and they have four children.

John married Martha Tibbetts, is a retired farmer of Hebron Township, and they have six sons.

Annie married Ira Nourse, a farmer of



Hebron Township, who is now deceased. She has two children.

Mary married George Wheater, a farmer, and they have five children. They live in Linn Township, Walworth County, Wis.

Fred married Ada Darrow, is a farmer in Geneva, and they have three children.

In all Mr. and Mrs. Judson have twenty-nine grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren, with their eight children, making a total of forty-seven descendants.

In politics Mr. Judson has been a life-long Republican of the Abraham Lincoln stamp, and his conspicuously successful career gives evidence of his sturdy character.

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#### LAWRENCE H. JONES.

Lawrence H. Jones, veteran of the Civil War and present Police Magistrate of Woodstock, Ill., was born in Carroll—now Kiantone—Chautauqua County, N. Y., Oct. 18, 1837. The Jones family is of Welsh extraction, John Jones, the founder of the American branch of the family, having emigrated, according to tradition, from Wales to America in the latter part of the seventeenth century. His sons were all natural musicians, one of them, Abraham, being especially clever with stringed instruments. Another son named John was a "Minute Man" during the War of the Revolution, taking part in several battles, also serving as a musician in the Continental Army. After the conclusion of the war he settled in Wardsboro, Windham County, Vt., where he raised a family of sons, who were also singers and noted musicians, playing both wind and stringed instruments. The father and sons made up an orchestra of twelve members, of which Benjamin, who was an expert player on the violin, was the leader. They collected together from different parts of the country for this service. John Jones, who has just been mentioned as a Revolutionary soldier, had sixty-seven grandchildren. Elliott Jones, who was the compiler of the first church hymn-book adopted by all the churches, was organist and chorister in the Broadway Tabernacle, New York, and his daughter Kate sang with the celebrated Jenny Lind in her Castle Garden concerts during her visit to this country. A

number of the members of the family were professors and teachers of music, among whom Chandler and David Jones will long be remembered.

Joseph Jones, grandfather of Lawrence H. Jones, of Woodstock, was born May 21, 1782. He was a farmer and married Betsy Richardson, who was born in 1784. Their children were Sarah R., Electa, Eliza, David, Simon G., Sarah G., and Lydia J. The father was a resident of Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he was known as an industrious and highly respected citizen. In old age Mr. Jones came to Illinois with his son Simon G., and died at Franklinville, McHenry County. His wife died in Chautauqua County, July 5, 1846.

Simon G. Jones was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., received an ordinary common-school education, became a farmer by occupation and, on Nov. 27, 1836, was married at Carroll, Chautauqua County, to July A. Hoyt, who was born at Wilton, Conn., Oct. 3, 1809, the daughter of Daniel and Abigail (Raymond) Hoyt. Daniel Hoyt, the father, was born in Norfolk, Conn., July 15, 1782, and his wife Abigail, June 6, 1778. Both the Hoyts and the Raymonds were of New England and Revolutionary stock. Simon G. Jones first settled in Chautauqua County, where he cleared up a farm in the woodlands. He inherited the musical taste of the family, and was a singer in the choir of the old Presbyterian church at Kiantone, Chautauqua County. The pew in this church formerly occupied by his own and his father's family, is still held by some members of the family. Simon G. Jones was a man of remarkable physical strength and very skillful in handling the scythe. It is related of him that no man in Chautauqua County was his equal in this respect. He was a member and deacon in the Presbyterian church. In 1854 he moved to Illinois, arriving in McHenry County, March 10, first settling in Hartland Township, where he lived three years. In 1857 he bought land in Seneca Township, but later moved to Linn County, Iowa, where he spent the remainder of his life with his children, dying there Sept. 24, 1885. While a resident of Seneca Township, McHenry County, he held the office of Assessor and Collector of Taxes. Originally a staunch

Democrat, he became a Lincoln Republican in the days of the Civil War. His children, all born before he came to McHenry County, were: Lawrence, born Oct. 18, 1837; Agnes L., born Sept. 3, 1839; Clinton M., born Aug. 4, 1841; Mary E., born Aug. 4, 1844.

Lawrence H. Jones, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the district schools of his native county, to which he walked a distance of about three miles. He grew up to be a farmer and, when about seventeen years of age, came with his father to McHenry County, Ill. He remained with his father working on the farm until after the beginning of the Civil War, in ante-bellum days being a member of Company A, Woodstock Light Guard, under the State militia organization. On May 24, 1861, he enlisted at Woodstock, as a private in Company A, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry (Capt. L. D. Kelly), one of the first regiments to be mustered in under the call for three years' volunteers. While in the service he became Orderly Sergeant of his company, but later was promoted to First Lieutenant, and for about three months during the absence of Captain Kelly, was in command of the company; also spent some time at home in the recruiting service. On February 15, 1862, he was honorably discharged at Pittsburg Landing on account of disability incurred in the service. His disability was due to chronic diarrhoea, and he was so greatly emaciated at the time of his discharge that he had entirely lost his voice and weighed only 100 pounds. Returning home, he was in a critical condition for some time and for eight months was unable to speak aloud.

After his recovery Mr. Jones was married at Sycamore, Ill., on July 3, 1865, to Mary A. Weaver, who was born at Woodstock, May 3, 1847, the daughter of Peter and Mary A. (Carr) Weaver. Peter Weaver was one of the early settlers of Woodstock, and he and his wife were parents of the following named children: James, Thomas, Joseph, Crawford and Mary A. All the sons were soldiers during the Civil War—with one exception all being members of Illinois regiments, Thomas serving three years in a Michigan regiment. Crawford, the youngest, enlisted before he had reached the age when he would be subject to military duty, serving one year and three months, while

James and Joseph each served about one year.

Mrs. Jones became an orphan while still an infant, her mother dying when the daughter was six days old, while her father died about two years later. She was then brought up in the family of Mr. John Ackerson, who was a relative of her mother's and an old settler of Seneca Township. She remained a member of the Ackerson family up to the time of her marriage.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Jones settled upon a farm in Seneca Township, but, in 1874, removed to Woodstock, where he entered into the employment of Timothy J. Dacy, in the agricultural machinery business. Later he had charge of the pickle factory of Haines & Noble until 1883, when he was appointed by President Harrison Collector of Internal Revenue for the First District, including Lake, McHenry, Boone and Winnebago Counties. Mr. Jones served some twelve years as Deputy Sheriff under Sheriffs Steadman, Church, Eckert and Udell, and, in 1892, was elected Police Magistrate for Woodstock, a position which he has held ever since, proving himself an efficient and impartial judicial officer. During his service as Deputy Sheriff he had charge of the entrance to the portion of the county jail in which Dacy—the only person ever executed in McHenry County—suffered the penalty of his crime in the murder of a Chicago Allderman.

'Squire Jones, as he is familiarly called by his intimate acquaintances, is a charter member of Woodstock Post, No. 108, Grand Army of the Republic, and has held all the offices of the organization, including that of Post Commander. He is also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and has held all the offices of the order, besides being delegate to the State Lodge for the past six years. In politics he is a stanch Republican and, as demonstrated by his record as a soldier, a man of patriotic impulses. He has taken an active interest in the preservation of the records of deceased soldiers who have been buried in the cemetery at Woodstock, and it was through his application to the authorities in Washington that head-stones for the soldier dead were obtained, and these he personally saw placed at the graves of those for whom they were intended.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones have had children named



as follows: John S., George L., Charles C. and Neva L. Of his three sons, two—George L. and Charles C.—are members of the Hospital Corps, Third Regiment, I. N. G.

Mrs. Jones was only a little over thirteen years of age when the Civil War broke out and, as all the young men in the vicinity where she lived had entered the army, she often drove the team which propelled the reaper that cut the grain for her own people and their neighbors in Seneca Township.

**Jones Genealogy.**—There is a tradition handed down in the Jones family to the effect that their ancestors of many generations ago moved about 1590 from England to Wales, and after remaining there about one hundred years, their descendants emigrated to America, settling in Massachusetts. John Jones, who was the son of Abraham Jones, was born in Mendon, Mass., March 23, 1744, and in 1780 moved to Waldsboro, Vt., and there Benjamin Jones was born, May 21, 1788. Joseph Jones, the son of John, was born May 21, 1782, and in the fall of 1815 moved to Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he became the progenitor of the family whose record has been given in the preceding sketch.

#### ROBERT JOHONNOTT.

Among the names of the early settlers of Richmond Township, and prominent among the citizens who assisted in developing this section of country from a wilderness to its present state of civilization and cultivation, is the name of Robert Johonnott, a descendant of one of the noted French soldiers who came to this country with the famous La Fayette to assist in the struggle for freedom. The great-grandfather married and settled in Massachusetts and had one child, Peter Johonnott, who lived and became the grandfather of our subject. He was born in Massachusetts and lived in Barre, Vt., about six miles from Montpelier. He married Ruth Sheldon and their children were Peter, Asa, Ruth and Edwin S. This wife died and he married Sallie Wheaton, and their children were Leonard, Louisa, Sarah and Mary Ann. Peter Johonnott, at the age of ninety-four years, came to Illinois and died at the residence of Ira R. Crosby, of Solon. He was a Universalist in religious belief, a soldier

in the War of 1812, and lived to the venerable old age of ninety-six years. He was a man of powerful physique, six feet two inches tall, and weighed two hundred pounds.

**Edwin S. Johonnott**, father of Robert, was born in Barre, Vt., about 1811, received the usual common-school education of his day and was a tanner by trade. He married in Hartford, Conn., Mariette Crosby, who was born in the same place, daughter of Ebenezer and Bridget (Steele) Crosby, natives of Connecticut, of English descent; Bridget Steele being the daughter of Ebenezer Steele, a lineal descendant of a daughter of Governor Bradford. Edwin S. Johonnott settled in Burlington, Vt., where he worked at his trade; afterwards moved to Troy, N. Y., thence to Michigan in 1835, where he bought land, and in 1837 moved to Volo, Ill., taking up land, which he partly improved previous to moving to Chicago in 1839. He engaged in the leather business in Chicago, his place of business being on Kinzie Street, the last building but one near the State Street Bridge. In 1843 Mr. Johonnott moved to McHenry County and settled in Spring Grove, where he bought 600 acres of partly improved land of the United States Government. He had made considerable progress towards improving this land when he died, in 1847, at the age of forty-two years. His children were Robert, Gertrude and Edwin S. Mr. Johonnott was a hard-working, industrious pioneer citizen, respected by all his acquaintances, and a member of the Universalist church.

Robert Johonnott, born in Burlington, Vt., Sept. 2, 1833, was brought by his parents to Michigan in 1835, thence to Volo, Ill., in 1837, and was raised on the frontier settlement of that State. He attended a very good school in Chicago for about three years, his teacher being A. P. Wilder, one of the early teachers of that city. Later he attended the Waukegan Academy for one year, and afterwards, in 1850, began to learn the blacksmith's trade in Richmond, Ill., with Sampson & Mason, who were early blacksmiths with whom Mr. Johonnott served an apprenticeship of four years. Mr. Johonnott thoroughly mastered his trade and in 1858 opened a blacksmith shop in Spring Grove, Ill., where he lived for thirteen years. March 15, 1859, he married at Spring Grove Frances A. Rice, born at Fall River, Mass.,



June 15, 1840, daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Bliven) Rice.

Joseph Bliven was a soldier in the War of 1812 and served at the Fort on Long Island, when it was bombarded by the British. He was descended from an old New England family, and moved to Illinois in 1841, settling in Spring Grove, where he built a grist-mill (the first mill in that place), and there lived up to the time of his death in 1845, at the age of sixty years.

Joseph Rice came to Illinois with Mr. Bliven and kept a hotel at Spring Grove, where he lived the remainder of his life dying at the age of sixty-eight years.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Johonnott settled at Spring Grove and then moved to Richmond in 1870, where he opened his present blacksmith shop. Their children are Marietta, Louisa, Gertrude, Henry, Louis, Catherine and Nellie. Fraternally, Mr. Johonnott is a member of the I. O. O. F. and of the Masonic Order. He has always been a man of very industrious habits, owns a pleasant residence, and is still in active business, a well-known and highly respected pioneer settler.

When Mr. Johonnott's father settled in Chicago there were no buildings between Clybourn Place and the city. The prairies about the city were continuous and Mr. Johonnott has often driven cattle through what is now one of Chicago's populous residence districts.

#### EDITH (KINGMAN) POYER-KERN.

Edith (Kingman) Poyer-Kern, educator and business woman of Woodstock, Ill., was born at Harvard, McHenry County, Jan. 14, 1866, the daughter of A. J. and Sarah M. (Cronkhite) Kingman, and grew up in the quiet and beautiful little city of Woodstock, where her parents located while she was still a child. Her parents, having both been students and successful teachers, she inherited from them those qualities of mind which made her especially successful in the same field. She received her education in the public schools of Woodstock, including the high school, where she took a high rank as a student. At the age of seventeen she began teaching in a near-by district school, but soon after was appointed to a position in the public schools of Woodstock, where she remained five years, during which time she

won a reputation as an expert and successful educator. Then, having taught two years in the public schools at Dundee, Ill., and one year at Oak Park, a suburb of Chicago, she became widely known as one of the leading teachers of Northern Illinois, the Oak Park schools having a standard second to none in the country. In June, 1894, she married Dr. Ulysses Grant Poyer, a prominent dentist of Chicago, where she resided for the next six months, when her husband's promising career was cut short by death from heart-disease. Afterward she resumed teaching in Oak Park, where she was an efficient and valued instructor for several years, until she was called to accept a superior position as teacher in Evanston, Ill., a city well known for its culture and progress in education. As the seat of the Northwestern University, the public schools of Evanston in which Mrs. Poyer taught, bear a national reputation. In 1896 Mrs. Poyer became interested in the breeding of Belgian hares, becoming one of the pioneers in this branch of business and the first to engage in it on an extensive scale. Her brother, Carroll F. Kingman, was her business manager in this line, and to his pains-taking care is due much of the success which has been attained in this enterprise. Mrs. Poyer became widely known as an importer of Belgian hares and "Flemish giants" from England, receiving some of the largest consignments of these animals brought to this country, and has also been a successful exhibitor in the fair of the National Fanciers and the Belgian Hare Associations, in which she has won many prizes. By good judgment in the investment of her capital, Mrs. Poyer achieved a remarkable success in this line of business and owned the largest and best equipped rabbitry in the world. The building occupied was erected expressly for this purpose, for which it was especially well adapted.

During Mrs. Poyer's career as a teacher and business woman, she has found time to gain a reputation in journalism. Many of her articles have appeared in the great dailies of Chicago, and numerous complimentary notices of her work have appeared in the general press throughout the country. Mrs. Poyer has traveled extensively in this and foreign countries, and is the author of several books of travel for children. She is a member of the Chicago Press League and of the Independent Peu-

women of Chicago, and is always active in promoting advanced thought.

In the spring of 1903, Mrs. Poyer married Josiah Quincy Kern, of Washington, D. C., a graduate of Mount Union College and the National Law School. Mr. Kern is a man of letters, having received five collegiate degrees. He is the author of several legal reference books, used in the Government offices, and has had an extensive experience as a correspondent for the Washington press. For many years he has been engaged in a judicial capacity in the Treasury Department at Washington, and is regarded as one of the safest advisers in legal matters among the officials at the National capital. He is recognized among leading statesmen and jurists as one of the best equipped men in the public service. Although a resident of Washington, D. C., for thirty-eight years, Mr. Kern was born and reared on a farm near Alliance, Stark County, Ohio. His father, Jacob Kern, was one of the prominent citizens of Stark County, where he was widely known for his intelligence and for his unflinching integrity.

#### A. J. KINGMAN.

Mr. Kingman, long a leading teacher of Harvard and former Superintendent of Schools for McHenry County, was born June 5, 1835, in Chester, Geauga County, Ohio, of English Puritan ancestry, the founders of the family in America having settled in Boston as early as 1634. The great-grandfather of A. J. Kingman was a native of Massachusetts and a soldier of the Revolution. His son, Isaac Kingman, was long a citizen of Cummington, Mass., which was his birthplace and, after his marriage to Nancy Bigelow, he emigrated to Geauga County, Ohio, where he opened up a farm and was a prominent citizen. His son, Edmund Kingman, (who was father of A. J.), was married at Chester, Ohio, to Hannah Hawes, and they had a family of ten children: Newton H., Cornelia M., Isaac W., Thomas B., Edmund, Arthur L., Philo W., Harriet and A. J. Five sons enlisted in the Civil War, one of these being Edmund, who, at the time, was fifteen years old, but was prevented from being mustered in by the protest of his father on account of his extreme youth. Newton H., Captain of Company I, Thirteenth Wisconsin Vol-

unteer Infantry, "veteranized" at the expiration of his three years' service and took part in many battles. Isaac W. served as a First Lieutenant in the Twenty-second Wisconsin, and was a prisoner in Libby Prison. Thomas R. was Orderly Sergeant in Company I, Thirteenth Wisconsin, and died in hospital. Arthur L. ran away from home at seventeen and enlisted, serving a little more than one year. In 1849 Edmund Kingman removed to Walworth County, Wis., where he purchased an improved farm. At this time the son A. J. was thirteen years of age, and he received his education in the district schools of Walworth County and at the Walworth and Albion academies. At seventeen years of age he began teaching in the district schools of Walworth County, which he continued during the winters of 1856 to 1859, meanwhile pursuing a course in the academy and keeping up with his class. On August 26, 1858, he was married in Walworth County to Sarah M. Cronkhite, both he and his wife continuing their attendance at the academy after marriage. In 1860 they removed to Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., where Mr. Kingman was Principal of the public schools for five years, while his wife was a teacher in the same. Later he was elected to the office of Superintendent of Schools for McHenry County, serving from 1865 to 1870. Failing health, however, compelled him to retire from educational work, for which he was so well fitted not only by his educational training, but by experience and executive ability as well. The enviable record which he made while engaged in office, is indicated by the following testimonial presented to him by the teachers of McHenry County on occasion of his bidding them farewell at the meeting of the Teachers' Institute, held at Richmond, McHenry County, Oct. 9, 1869:

"Resolved, that we, as appreciative teachers, tender to A. J. Kingman a vote of thanks for his very efficient services as Superintendent of our Common Schools, for the past four years. We recognize in him, not only a judicious counselor and sympathetic friend, but an earnest co-laborer, whose untiring zeal and ability have contributed much to raise the character and elevate the standard of our schools, and we deeply regret that the educational interests of our county are to be deprived of his valuable services at a time when the benefit of his administration had become



*A. J. Krugman*





more than ordinarily apparent. To our thanks we add our sincere wishes that his future, in whatever sphere of life his lot may be cast, may be as successful and honorable as have been his labors in the past.

"JOHN B. LYON,  
Secretary.  
"WM. NICKLE,  
Chairman Protem."

A. J. Kingman was one of the founders of the McHenry County Teachers' Institute as it exists today, which, in its earlier history, was a feeble organization, but sparsely attended, but to which, by his earnest labors in its behalf he imparted a strong impetus, contributing largely to the noteworthy success which it finally achieved.

After leaving the educational field, Prof. Kingman engaged, at a liberal salary, with Col. L. H. Everts, an extensive publisher of atlases, with whom he remained, filling an important position from 1874 to 1878, after which he was, for two years, associated with his brothers as manager of the atlas publishing firm of Kingman Brothers. In 1867 Mr. Kingman moved to Woodstock, where he afterwards resided. In political opinions he has always been independent and a strong supporter of the rights of the common people as advocated by those great leaders, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln. In his later years, by appointment of the Democratic National Committee, he served as precinct representative of that party for Woodstock.

Mrs. Sarah M. (Cronkhite) Kingman, wife of A. J. Kingman, was born Jan. 8, 1837, in Chautauqua County, N. Y., the daughter of Henry and Sarah (Gott) Cronkhite. The Gotts are of mixed Scotch and English blood and the Cronkhites of Holland-Dutch stock, who came to New York State at an early day. Henry Cronkhite settled in Chautauqua County, N. Y., but, in 1842, came by horse-teams and wagons to Wisconsin, the journey occupying three weeks. He first bought land in Walworth County, where he opened up and improved a farm, but afterwards retired from active life, settling in Janesville, where he died in 1898, aged eighty-nine years. His children were: Mary, Sarah M. (who became Mrs. Kingman), and Permelia. Mrs. Kingman received a good education in the public schools of East Troy,

Wis., and at the age of eighteen years began teaching near her home, continuing in this line until her marriage to Mr. Kingman at twenty-two years of age. After marriage, she was employed with her husband in the schools at Harvard, Ill., establishing for herself a reputation as an efficient teacher. She has been a life-long member of the Baptist Church, and, by her kindness of heart and elevated character, has won the confidence and respect of all who know her.

Mr. and Mrs. Kingman were the parents of three children: Carroll F., born at Harvard, Ill., June 28, 1861; Edith, born at Harvard, Jan. 14, 1866; and Judson Irving, born in Woodstock, Ill., Oct. 6, 1873. Carroll F. married, May 28, 1902, in Milwaukee, Wis., Emily A. Stein; (the record of Edith Kingman, now Mrs. Kern, is given in her personal sketch elsewhere in this volume); Judson Irving, married in Sharon, Wis., August 18, 1894, Anna Lindall, and they have had four children: Edith, born Nov. 9, 1895; Florence, born Sept. 30, 1897; Adelbert Judson, born April 15, 1899; Howard, born May 24, 1901—all born in Chicago, except Florence, who was born in Woodstock.

Carroll F., the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Kingman was, for nine years, an engineer on the North-Western Railway and later manager of the Northwestern rabbitry, in Woodstock, for his sister, Mrs. Edith (Kingman) Poyer, now Mrs. Kern, during which time he visited England in the interest of the business. He is now engaged with the South Side City Railway Company in Chicago. Judson now holds a responsible position with the Western Electric Railway Company; is also a student at the Lewis Institute, Chicago, industriously fitting himself for a higher position. Both of the Kingman brothers are men of exemplary habits and possess the excellent traits of character for which their father was noted.

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Since the above sketch and family record were written Mr. A. J. Kingman has passed away, his death occurring at his home in Woodstock, Ill., June 19, 1903.

By special request of his family and friends we publish below copious extracts from an article on his life and labors which appeared

in the "McHenry County Republican," from the pen of A. L. Wing Coburn, the editor of the McHenry County department of this work. This tribute was read with much satisfaction by Mr. Kingman's friends, and is considered an able and just portrayal of his character and work:

(From the McHenry County Republican.)

A. J. Kingman.

(By our special contributor, A. L. Wing Coburn, Editor McHenry County Record.)

"ABOU BEN ADHEM."

"Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!) Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace, And saw within the moonlight in his room, Making it rich and like a lily in bloom, An angel writing in a book of gold; Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold. And to the presence in the room he said: 'What writest thou?' The vision raised its head And, with a look made of all sweet accord, Answered, 'The names of those who love the Lord.'"

And is mine one?" said Abou. 'Nay, not so,' Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low, But cheerily still; and said, 'I pray thee, then, Write me as one that loves his fellow men.'"

"The angel wrote and vanished. The next night It came again, and with a great awakening light, And showed the names whom love of God had blessed, And, lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest!"

When the end comes and a friend and fellow-citizen rests in peace, our thoughts naturally revert to those events in his life with which we are most familiar. As in a panorama, the varied events of bygone years pass in review before us. Then we ask, "What of his work? Has he done well with the precious gift of life? Can we write against his name, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant?'"

Success in life is not to be measured by the accumulation of large holdings in money or in lands. The miser by his greed and avarice can do this, and in this age the skilled financier can hardly estimate his almost untold wealth, which has undoubtedly, in many cases, been unjustly wrung from the masses of his fellow men, the common people. Think ye that the day of reckoning cometh not? What place will such a man hold when the great history of this generation shall be written? The scheming and unscrupulous politician frequently obtains high official position, but the name his honored father bore must always reek with sickening odors of the taint of political corruption.

Success in life is not of these; nor of many other examples in kind that could be given. It is not to him who stands in the full blaze of apparent prosperity and popularity; and yet, like the Pharisee by the wayside, heedeth not. Real success is to him who, with few opportunities—the tools of effort—by his patient and tireless energy, the broadening of his natural abilities and the cultivation of kindness in his words and acts, achieves an honorable position among his fellow-men and wins their respect for his character, his works and his virtues. It is to him who keeps the love and respect of his wife, the filial devotion of his children, and a warm spot in the hearts of his friends. It is surely to him who is a good citizen, the head of an affectionate household—a home—for it is here that the great strength of our mighty American nation rests—on the home—when there is honor and truth and virtue and love.

As with the reminiscent pen we turn to the life of our friend, A. J. Kingman, for our lesson, which is so plain that any one can learn it—a strong will and a noble purpose untiringly pursued, a good life, a loving and faithful husband, an affectionate and indulgent father, an able and earnest teacher, and that broadest and grandest title, a good citizen of our great commonwealth.

Mr. Kingman was an excellent mathematician, and, in his later life, delighted in the solution of difficult problems in algebra and the higher mathematics. He was a wide reader and delved deeply into the history of American politics and the works of the fathers of the American government. He believed in knowing that he was right in the advocacy of any political principle, and it is not too much to say of him that he was one of the best read men in political matters in McHenry County. He was a clear thinker and entirely independent in his modes of thought. In other words, he did his own thinking. In argument he was forceful, direct, logical and effective in his reasoning and in his conclusions. Mr. Kingman was a fearless advocate of what he believed to be right, and was always honest in his convictions. In his death his political friends (and he had many) have lost a thinker and a leader who will be greatly missed.

Men differ in political opinions. If they did not, there would be no politics, and by the liberties our fathers gained, they have the right to differ. All honest opinions should be respected and all men should remember that, in this country, every man has the undoubted right to think for himself—even the right to think wrongly, if he so lists. Time passes, measures and methods change, and who shall say what principle or policy shall prevail in the coming years? Differences are forgotten and all unite in a respectful tribute to a good citizen. We sum up the life of our



friend and fellow-citizen and say that a man's success in life is in proportion to the benefit that he is to himself, his family and his fellow-men. The man who, by his efforts, makes the world wiser and better, has lived a successful life; and for whom can we claim this honor with more truth than for the teacher and educator and fearless champion of the rights of the common people? Throughout the country there are many men and women, the heads of respected families, who owe the inspiration to a better education to our friend Kingman, and the value of his labors shall thus extend to other generations: therefore, we write against his name, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

To the bereaved wife and mother the heartfelt sympathy of her old-time friends and neighbors is extended. To those who know her best, no words of praise are needed for the patient and loving life she has lived, or for the strong soul that is as well sustained in her affliction as the quiet waters of an inland sea. She has been a quiet and peaceful force for good in her home (which has been ennobled by her self-sacrifice) and in the community in which she has lived so long.

#### ALFRED KING.

Alfred King (deceased), pioneer settler, and during his life one of the most prominent and widely known residents of Marengo Township, McHenry County, was born at Suffield, Conn., in 1807, the son of Jonathan and Dorcas (Gillette) King, and died as the result of an accident while working on his farm in 1846.

The Marengo branch of the King family is of strictly English origin, the first in this line, of which an authentic record has been preserved, being James King, who was the son of William King, a resident about the middle of the seventeenth century, of Ugborough, Devonshire, England. Besides his son James, William King had another son named William, and the two brothers came to America together, and William is believed to have settled in one of the Southern Colonies. This was in the latter half of the seventeenth century, and James King, who first located at Ipswich, Conn., as early as 1671, is said later to have become one of the original proprietors of Suffield, Conn., which continued to be the home of his descendants for several generations. He is thought to have been born in Devonshire, about 1652, and to have been about eighteen years old when he came to America. On March 23, 1674, he was married at Ipswich, Conn., to Elizabeth Fuller,

and they had children named: James, Jr., born March 14, 1675, died July 15, 1757; William, born Jan. 4, 1679, died Sept. 30, 1680; Agnes (Austin), born July 15, 1681, died Jan. 7, 1733; Benonia, born Dec. 5, 1685, died June 27, 1686; Joseph, born June 5, 1677, died Jan. 23, 1688; Joseph (2) born May 10, 1689, died March 6, 1756; Benjamin, born Nov. 21, 1690, died April 24, 1712; Mary, born April 20, 1692, died May 8, 1769; William (2), born date unknown, died Jan. 8, 1774. James King settled at Suffield, Conn., in 1678, and died there May 15, 1722.

The next in line of descent in the branch of the family to which Alfred King of Marengo belonged, was Joseph (2), who was born at Suffield, Conn., in 1689, and died in 1712. He was twice married; first to Mary Jesse, May 2, 1717, and second to Hannah Devotion, June 2, 1740. His children were: Abigail (Bliss), born Jan. 9, 1719, died Aug. 5, 1797; Joseph, born Oct. 1, 1722, died Jan. 27, 1724; Joseph (2), born April 15, 1741, died 1814; Eliphalet, born Feb. 6, 1743, died Aug. 29, 1821; Hannah (Granger), born Aug. 23, 1744, died Oct. 23, 1821; Epaphros, born May 11, 1746, died Feb. 17, 1767; Ashbel, born Jan. 26, 1748, died May 21, 1806; Thaddeus, born June 25, 1749, died Jan. 20, 1792; Theodore, born Dec. 21, 1750, died Sept. 8, 1822; Mary (Granger), born July 22, 1752, died June 30, 1836; Ichabod, born May 14, 1756, died December, 1830. Joseph (2), died in 1756.

Eliphalet King of this family, born in Connecticut, in 1743, became the head of the next generation (the third in lineal descent) from William King of England. He became an officer of the Continental Army during the War of the Revolution, his commission as Lieutenant of a company in the Twenty-second Regiment of Foot, under command of Col. Samuel Wylie, bearing date Jan. 1, 1776, with the signature of John Hancock as President of the Continental Congress, being still preserved by his descendants. Lieut. Eliphalet King was married twice; first, to Mary Remington, Nov. 3, 1768; and next to Silence Rumrill, Oct. 2, 1798. Sixteen children were the issue of these two marriages—of which all but two were by the first—viz.: Epaphros, born Sept. 4, 1769, died Oct. 15, 1769; Roger, born Jan. 16, 1771, died Aug. 15, 1855; Jonathan, born Nov. 11, 1772, died July 11, 1862; Seth, born Oct. 15,

1775, died Sept. 24, 1776; Seth (2), born Sept. 27, 1777, died July 12, 1851; Eliphalet, born Sept. 3, 1779, died March 26, 1866; Henry, born Aug. 8, 1781; Augustine, born Sept. 19, 1783, died 1856; Mary, born Dec. 4, 1786; Elijah, born Oct. 14, 1789, died Aug. 21, 1847; Lucy, born Nov. 12, 1791; Aurelia, born Sept. 8, 1793; Sherlock, born Aug. 2, 1796; Harriet, born in 1798, died Aug. 29, 1802; Matilda, born Feb. 6, 1799, died March 15, 1865; Harriet Devotion, born Sept. 2, 1803, died June 3, 1869. Lieut. Eliphalet King's residence was at Suffield, Conn., where he died in 1821.

Jonathan King, of the fourth generation, and son of Lieut. Eliphalet King of the Revolution, was born in Connecticut in 1772, and removed from his native State in 1820 to Hammond, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where he spent the remainder of his life, and where most of his descendants have continued to reside. His original homestead is now occupied by his great-great-grandson, Myron Wallace King. Jonathan was a Captain in the New York State militia and, for many years, kept a hotel in which he was succeeded by his son.

Returning to the principal subject of this sketch, Alfred King, who was born in 1807, the son of Jonathan and Dorcas (Gillette) King, and fourth in line of descent from William King of Devonshire, England: Mr. King was about thirteen years of age when, in 1820, he accompanied his parents to Hammond, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where he received a common-school education and, in early manhood for a time, was engaged in teaching. Here he married Emeline Buss, who was born in New Hampshire in 1810, the daughter of Elisha and Polly (Mann) Buss. After his marriage, Mr. King settled on a farm in St. Lawrence County, where he remained the next seven years, in the meantime being engaged to some extent in the cattle trade, purchasing his stock in Canada. In June, 1840, he removed to Illinois, settling in Marengo Township, McHenry County, upon land still occupied by his children. Here he bought several hundred acres, which he improved, building on it the second frame house on the State road between Elgin and Belvidere. This house was built of pine lumber hauled by Mr. King from Chicago, and was painted and plastered—an unusual thing for the pioneer homes of those days. Mr. King brought with him from the

East a considerable stock of merchandise, which he sold out to his neighbors. He conducted his business in an energetic and enterprising manner, and became a successful farmer, owning a well-stocked farm. He was the first Postmaster at Marengo, the postoffice being located in his home. He was killed by accident on Feb. 28, 1846, while working on his woodland in McHenry County.

Mr. King was one of the early members of the Methodist church in his locality, and his house was always open to the itinerant ministers who had occasion to visit that section. His children were: Lucy J., Mary A., Augustus C., Alfred H., and two others who died in infancy.

The daughters, Lucy J. and Mary A., are both members of the Methodist church and have always liberally assisted it.

Alfred H. is now a resident of Shreveport, La., where he is engaged in business. While a student in the high school at Marengo during the Civil War, at the age of sixteen years he enlisted as a soldier in an Illinois regiment, the company to which he belonged being composed largely of pupils of the same school. He was married Aug. 1, 1882, to Susie Dickerson, who died Aug. 24, 1895, leaving no children. They had an adopted daughter, Mabel, who was born March 22, 1882. Mr. King's second wife, to whom he was married in 1898, was Dora Rowe, and they have an adopted daughter named Nellie Amanda Marguerite.

AUGUSTUS C. KING, son of Alfred King, Sr., born in 1837, in Hammond Township, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., is a practical farmer and stock-dealer, and manages the home farm upon which his father settled over sixty years ago. In 1876, in company with his mother, he built a substantial stone residence, which is calculated to stand a hundred years without showing signs of decay. Mr. King is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in politics an unswerving Republican. His father having died when the son was about nine years of age, the latter attended the Presbyterian Academy at Marengo for a number of years, receiving a good education. Since reaching manhood, he has had charge of the home farm and has made a success of it—no man in the community maintaining a higher reputation for integrity and business sagacity.

The Buss family, to which Mrs. Alfred King



*John Kennedy*





belonged, were of English descent, and quite a number of them were residents of Leominster, Mass., about forty miles from Boston, where Elisha Buss, the father of Mrs. King, followed the occupation of a farmer. He moved at an early day to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., where he bought wild timber-land and cleared up a farm, and where he died in middle life. His children were: John, Mary, Lucy, Betsy, Alfred and Emeline—the last of whom became Mrs. Alfred King. Mr. Buss was a member of the Congregational church.

Elisha Mann, who was the grandfather of Mrs. King on the maternal side, was a prominent and public-spirited citizen of New Hampshire, where he was a soldier of the Revolution. During the struggle for independence he gave evidence of his patriotism by raising a company for the field, which he clothed and shod at his own expense. He was still living at the laying of the corner-stone of the Bunker Hill monument, in 1825, and, although advanced in years and in feeble health, traveled by private conveyance a distance of 200 miles to attend the ceremony. Several members of his regiment were present, and although then over ninety years of age, he was one of the most vigorous and erect of their number.

#### JOHN KENNEDY.

John Kennedy, of Marengo, McHenry County, is a Civil War veteran, and a substantial business man as well, having for years been engaged at the shoemaker's trade. Born in Prescott, Ontario, Nov. 4, 1837, he is the son of John and Elizabeth Kennedy. His grandfather, Alexander Kennedy, who was a resident of North of Ireland, was a man of remarkable vitality, and he lived to the advanced age of one hundred and eight years.

John Kennedy, Sr., father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Ireland, and there passed his early life. While a young man he enlisted in the British army, serving under the Duke of Wellington, and participating in some of the fiercest battles of the Napoleonic campaigns, including those of Salamanca, Badajoz, Victoria, and Waterloo. Later he was stationed as one of the guards at St. Helena, serving altogether a number of years in the army. He married in Scotland and of this union there were nine children: Alex-

ander, Robert, Jane, William, John, Thomas (who died in infancy), George, Thomas and David. After marriage Mr. Kennedy came to Ontario and settled in Prescott, where he remained for some time, and then moved to London, Ont., making a part of the journey on the Thames river by raft. Later he settled upon a 100-acre tract of land heavily wooded with beach, oak and maple, near Chatham, Ont., where he made his home for the remainder of his active life. He cleared land and brought it under cultivation and in time had a valuable farm. Having retired from active work, late in life, he lived with his daughter, Jane Somerville, in Chatham, where, at the advanced age of one hundred and eight years, he died. Like his ancestors for generations Mr. Kennedy was an adherent of the doctrines of the Presbyterian church, and fraternally affiliated with the order of A. F. & A. M.

John Kennedy, Jr., was the product of good wholesome farm life with some business training. On his father's farm near Chatham, he spent a portion of his early years, and there, in the district schools, received his education. At the age of fourteen years he began learning the shoemaker's trade in Chatham, and in 1857 removed to Detroit, and there followed his trade for some time. Later he engaged in the same business in Grand Rapids, Mich., and subsequently in Chicago. His next field of labor was Iroquois County, Ill., where he remained for some time, but in the fall of 1861 opened a shop in Marengo, where he has since resided. August 5, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company A, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and went to the front, during the period of his service taking part in the siege of Vicksburg, in the Red River campaign, battles of Champion Hills, Nashville, and many other important engagements. He also participated in the campaign against Price in Missouri and Arkansas. He served with a short intermission to the close of the war, receiving an honorable discharge in 1865. During his service his merits as a soldier were recognized by his promotion from the rank of Corporal to that of Sergeant. At the battle of Nashville a cannonball struck his knee, compelling the amputation of his leg and six weeks' treatment in Cumberland Hospital, after which he received a thirty-days furlough. After the war Mr. Kennedy returned to Marengo, and resumed

his trade as a shoemaker, which he has since made the main business of his life. A skilled workman he has won for himself a comfortable livelihood.

At Marengo, July 4, 1867, Mr. Kennedy married Elizabeth Green, who was born in Seneca Township, daughter of John and Hannah (Hetybe) Green, who came from the State of New York, and became pioneer settlers of Seneca Township. Their children were: Dr. De Witt C., Frederick, Emeline and Elizabeth (Mrs. Kennedy). The latter died in Marengo, Sept. 28, 1899. To Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy were born five children: John, who served in the Spanish War, and for three years in the Philippines; Frederick and Anna, (twins); William, who also served in the Spanish War and for three years in the Philippines, and Arthur.

Mr. Kennedy is a typical Civil War veteran, battle-scarred, patriotic and fond of the reminiscences of that period. As a member of the Harley Wayne Post G. A. R., of Marengo he has acted as Vice-Commander, Chaplain, and at present is Commander. He is a man of sound moral principles, temperate in his habits, and a highly respected citizen. As tax-collector he has served Marengo faithfully and efficiently for two years. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party, but is an independent thinker. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy are members of the Baptist church.

#### GOODSKALK KNUTSON.

Goodskalk Knutson, a resident of Woodstock, McHenry County, and soldier of the Civil War, was born at Waterford, Racine County, Wis., March 8, 1841, the son of Knute Knutson, who was born in Voss, Norway, the son of Goodskalk Knutson, for whom the subject of this sketch was named. About 1838 or 1839, Knute Knutson came to America, landing at Quebec and coming thence by way of the lakes to Milwaukee, Wis., and finally bought sixty acres of unimproved land twenty-five miles southwest of Milwaukee. Here he married Anna Rognaldson, who was a native of Norway, and crossed the ocean on the same vessel with him when he came to America. Mr. Knutson was an industrious man and one of the pioneers in his locality, where he spent the remainder of his life engaged in improving his land, and where he died in 1858 at the age of

about forty-five years. His children were: Goodskalk, the subject of this sketch; Knute, who died aged two and a half years; Marjorie, died aged sixteen; Betsy, died at eighteen; Annie, died after marriage, and Knute (2). Mr. Knutson and his family were members of the Lutheran church. His wife lived to be seventy-four years old, dying in 1888. Goodskalk Knutson, the oldest son of this family, grew up on his father's farm, receiving but little schooling. His father having died when the son was about seventeen years old, the responsibility of caring for the family and improving the farm devolved largely upon the latter. When a little over twenty years of age, on Sept. 5, 1861, at Racine, Wis., he enlisted as a private in Company K, Eighth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. On June 4, 1864, the Eighth Regiment "veteranized," Mr. Knutson re-enlisting in his old company, in which he was promoted to the rank of corporal, and being honorably discharged Sept. 5, 1865. During his service of over three years, Mr. Knutson took part with his regiment in thirty-six battles besides many skirmishes, including: Frederickstown, Mo., Oct. 21, 1861; Siege of New Madrid and Island No. 10, March and April, 1862; Point Pleasant, Mo., March 20, 1862; Farmington, Miss., May 9, 1862; before Corinth, May 28, 1862; Iuka, Sept. 14-18, 1862; Burnsville, Miss., Sept. 16-18, 1862; Corinth, Oct. 3-4, 1862; Tallahatchie, Dec. 2, 1862; Mississippi Springs, Miss., May 13, 1863; Jackson, Miss., May 14, 1863; assault on Vicksburg, June 4, 1863; Richmond, La., June 15, 1863; Vicksburg, June 24, 1863; surrender of Vicksburg, July 3, 1863; Brownsville, Miss., Oct. 14, 1863; Fort Surry, La., March 13, 1864; Fort de Russy, March 15, 1864; Henderson Hill, La., March 15, 1864; Grand Ecore, La., April 2, 1864; Pleasant Hill, La., April 8-9, 1864; Hurricane Creek, La., April 13, 1864; Natchitoches, April 20, 1864; Cane River, La., April 22, 1864; Cloutierville and Crane Hill, La., April 23, 1864; Rapides, La., May 2, 1864; Bayou La Mourie, La., May 16, 1864; Maysville, La., May 17, 1864; Calhoun's Plantation, La., May 18, 1864; Bayou de Glaize, La., May 18, 1864; Lake Chicot, La., June 6, 1864; Battle of Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 15-16, 1864. The Eighth Wisconsin carried the famous war eagle "Old Abe," as a "mascot," at



the head of its columns during the principal part of its service. The following extract in reference to this famous bird, taken from the "Military History of Wisconsin," will be of interest in this connection:

"OLD ABE, WISCONSIN WAR EAGLE.—The Eighth was known as the 'Eagle Regiment,' from the fact that a live eagle was carried in every battle up to the return of the Union veterans in 1864. This noble bird was taken from the parent nest in Chippewa County in Wisconsin, by an Indian who disposed of it to a gentleman of Eau Claire County, from whom it was purchased by the members of Capt. Perkin's company while organizing in 1861. It is needless to say that it was instantly adopted as the regimental pet, and was christened 'Old Abe.' A perch was prepared, and the royal bird was borne with the regiment on all its marches, and into every battle in which the gallant Eighth was engaged up to the muster-out of the Union veterans.

"Perched on its stand and above the heads of the men, the bird was more than once the mark for rebel bullets, but luckily escaped unharmed with the exception of the loss of a few feathers shot away. He returned with the Union veterans in 1864, and was presented to the State and placed in charge of the Quartermaster's Department, and every care was bestowed upon him. At the great Chicago Fair in 1865, 'Old Abe' was exhibited, and his photograph disposed of, realizing the amount of \$16,000. He was also exhibited at the Milwaukee Fair with profitable results. The sum netted for charitable objects was about \$20,000. He occasionally breaks his fetters, but he has become so far domesticated that he is easily recovered. Occasionally the music of a band, or the noise of a drum, will reach his ears, when he will intently listen, and will respond with his characteristic scream, probably recognizing the strain as one with which the battle field has made his ear familiar. 'Old Abe' has become celebrated in our military annals, and his history inextricably interwoven with that of the brave and gallant regiment who bore him triumphantly.

"At the battle of Corinth, Gen. Price, knowing that the capture of the eagle would electrify the South, ordered his men to take him at all hazards; and, if they could not do so, to kill him—adding, he would rather get that bird than the whole brigade."

During his whole career as a soldier Mr. Knutson was never wounded or taken prisoner, and was in hospital only one week on account of sickness. He was always active as a soldier and performed his full duty, taking part in all the battles, skirmishes, campaigns and marches

in which his regiment was engaged; and, as a consequence, he enjoys the well-earned reputation of a true patriot who endured privation and risked his life in the service of his country. After his return to civil life he went to South Dakota, where he purchased 160 acres of land in Hand County. On May 28, 1887, he was married to Mary Howe, who was born near Christiania, Norway, Oct. 2, 1855, the daughter of John and Elsie (Bergen) Howe. Her father was a native of the same locality in Norway just named, being born in 1809. Mr. Howe was a farmer, and his residence was in a village on the banks of the beautiful Lake Otte, where he kept a ferry and lived in comfortable circumstances. His children were: Rachel, Julia, Martha, Andrew, Ole, John and Mary. Mr. Howe came to America and settled in Woodstock, McHenry County, in 1872, making his home there with his daughter, Mrs. Rachel Anderson, and dying there at the age of eighty-one years. His wife died in Norway aged about forty years. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Knutson settled on his farm in South Dakota, but being dissatisfied with the country, they came to Woodstock, where Mr. Knutson became night watchman for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, but for the past two years has held a similar position with the Oliver Typewriter Company. In political belief Mr. Knutson is a Republican and is a member of Woodstock Post, No. 108, G. A. R., in which he has held office and is recognized as an honored comrade. Mr. and Mrs. Knutson have one daughter, Olive, to whom they are giving a good education. With a record as a brave and faithful soldier and a high reputation for personal integrity, Mr. Knutson is spending a useful and industrious life in the home owned by him in Woodstock

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#### JAMES KEE.

James Kee, one of the most venerable and respected residents of McHenry County, who is a descendant of a family of Scotch-Irish extraction, emigrated to Illinois more than half a century ago, and has ever since made his home in Algonquin Township. His grandfather, William Kee, was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, where his ancestors had set-

tled when they moved from Scotland at an early period. William Kee was a farmer by occupation, a Presbyterian in religious faith, and died in his native country at an advanced age. His children were John, James and William.

James Kee, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in County Tyrone, and adopted his father's vocation as a farmer, to which he added that of a surveyor, and was also inspector of linens, with offices in Londonderry and Strabane. He married Elizabeth Mahafey, and their children were: William, Rebecca, Elizabeth, John, Letitia, James, Joseph, Mary, Jane, Matilda and Robert. Of these only Robert and James are now (1902) living, the latter being the principal subject of this article. James Kee (1) and wife were members of the Methodist Church, though born members of the Church of England. James Mahafey, the father of Mrs. Kee, died on his farm in Ireland, at the age of about sixty years.

James Kee (2) was born on the home farm in County Tyrone, Ireland, Oct. 24, 1814, where he received a good elementary education and attended high school for some time. He learned to farm with his father and, at the age of seventeen years, came to America, sailing from Londonderry in May, 1831, on the good ship, "The Bows," the voyage to Quebec, by sailing-vessel, requiring about five weeks. After his arrival at Quebec, Mr. Kee obtained employment as clerk in a dry-goods house, and was afterwards employed at farm work, remaining in Canada about two and a half years. In 1833 he went to New York State and worked in a stone quarry at Yonkers, and there married Sept. 22, 1836, Rachael Morton, born in the city of New York, Oct. 18, 1819, daughter of Robert and Margaret (Fee) Morton.

David Morton, the father of Robert Morton and the grandfather of Mrs. Kee, was a farmer and a well-to-do citizen of Scotch-Irish extraction, who lived in County Cavan, Ireland, where he held land under a long lease and carried on the business of a linen-weaver, employing a number of men and women in his business. His children were: Robert, Charles, Charlotte, Ann, John, Elizabeth (who died young), William and Elizabeth (2) who died in infancy. David Morton, the father of this

family, died on his farm between sixty and seventy years of age.

Robert Morton, the father of Mrs. Kee, was born in County Cavan, Ireland, Nov. 14, 1791, son of David and Margaret (Wilson) Morton. He received a common school education, became an excellent mathematician, and, like his father, was a weaver by trade. He was married in Ireland to Margaret Fee, daughter of George Fee, who came to America in 1815 and engaged in the stone-quarry business at Yonkers, N. Y., his wife remaining in Ireland two years longer awaiting the distribution of the paternal estate. In 1847 (thirty-two years after his arrival in the United States) Mr. Fee removed to Illinois coming via the Erie Canal and the lakes to Chicago, thence going directly to Algonquin Township, McHenry County, where he entered 500 acres of Government land which he improved and left, at his death, for distribution among his children. He died in 1881 aged eighty-eight years and six months. His children were Rachael, Edward, Charles, David, Margaret, Ann, Mary J., Elizabeth, Ellen, Robert, John and William. Mr. Morton was originally a member of the Church of England, but became a Methodist and was a man of excellent character.

After his marriage to Miss Morton in 1836, Mr. James Kee remained in the stone-quarry business with Edward Morton at Yonkers, N. Y., until 1849, when he removed to Illinois, leaving New York May 15, by railroad to Buffalo and thence by the lakes to Chicago, where he hired a conveyance to complete the journey to Algonquin. Here they found Mrs. Kee's father, Mr. Robert Morton, who resided in a two-story house with the only brick chimney in the neighborhood, which was the means suggested to them for learning when they had reached their destination. Mr. Kee settled on the farm where he now resides, entered eighty acres of Government land and purchased eighty acres more, to which he made additions, until he became the owner of two hundred and fourteen acres of land, two hundred acres of which he still retains. He soon erected substantial buildings to take the place of the log structures he first found on the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Kee are members of the Episcopal church and have done much to as-



*Thomas Lumley*







*Ann Eliza Lumley*





sist in the material and moral development of the community in which they still reside, and, at an advanced age, enjoy the respect and esteem of a large circle of acquaintances. They are the parents of Elizabeth, Robert, James, William, Margaret Jane, Joseph, John, Morton, Mary Ellen, Charlotte L. and Edward J. The son James served as a soldier in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War.

#### VINCENT SILAS LUMLEY.

Vincent Silas Lumley, a leading lawyer and ex-Prosecuting Attorney of McHenry County, was born in Ringwood, McHenry County, Dec. 26, 1867, the son of Thomas R. and Eliza (Mitchell) Lumley. The Lumley family are of English descent, their history being identified with Yorkshire, England, from a remote period. They were the founders of a fraternal organization known as "The Foresters," originally composed solely of members of that family, but into which, at a later period, members of other English families were admitted.

Thomas R. Lumley, the father of Vincent S., was born in Yorkshire, Eng., July 3, 1827, the son of Thomas Emanuel and Mary Ann Lumley, and was reared a farmer in his native country. His father, Thomas Emanuel Lumley, also a native of Yorkshire, was a farmer, and had three brothers, all of whom, like himself, were men of prominence and considerable property. Of these, John, now deceased, was a well-to-do citizen of Scriven, Eng.; Mathew was a piano manufacturer of Hull, and Edwin (deceased) was formerly an extensive farmer in Yorkshire. Thomas Emanuel served as a soldier during the French-English War under Lord Wellington and took part in the battle of Waterloo. A former Lord Lumley, connected with this family, was friendly to the Puritans, and assisted some of them in reaching America during the days of their persecution. Thomas E. Lumley married Mary Ann Wright, and they had a good home in Yorkshire, where the following named children were born to them: John, Helen E., James, William, Thomas Robert (father of Vincent S.) and Mary Ann. Thomas E. Lumley died in England in 1863, and his wife in 1848.

Thomas R. Lumley and his brother William sailed from Liverpool for America in 1851, the

voyage to New York consuming six weeks, whence they came direct to Huntley, McHenry County, where they obtained employment for a time on what is now a division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. Later they joined the John S. Cummings Company in an expedition across the plains to California, an account of which is given elsewhere in this volume. (See sketch of John S. Cummings). While in California Thomas R. engaged in mercantile business for two years, but in 1854 returned to McHenry County. He then bought 355 acres of land in Ringwood Prairie, a part of it improved and known as the Holcomb farm, while the remainder was unimproved. Here he erected one of the finest farm-houses of the time in McHenry County. May 3, 1858, he married Ann Eliza Mitchell, born in Kingsville, Ashtabula County, Ohio, Feb. 22, 1836, the daughter of Silas Robert and Mary S. (Hopkins) Mitchell. After marriage, Mr. Lumley settled on his land in McHenry County, where he acquired a large estate, finally becoming the owner of 1,000 acres of land. Among his later acquisitions were the Tryon farm of 275 acres in Hebron Township and the Peterson farm of 218 acres in Greenwood. Mr. Lumley and wife remained on their farm until 1888, when they removed to Woodstock and later to Chicago. He was a member of the Methodist church, in which he filled the office of Steward for many years. Politically he was a Republican, but not in any sense an office-seeker, preferring to give his attention to his large farming and other business interests. He was public-spirited and took a deep interest in educational matters and other enterprises affecting his township and locality. Commencing without capital, but possessing sagacity and an indomitable will, he attained a high degree of business success. He was very abstemious in habits, using neither liquors nor tobacco in any form. Mr. and Mrs. Lumley were the parents of the following named children: Frank B., Clinton G., Genevieve L., Vincent S., Edwin T., Wallace J., and Stanley M., who died Aug. 24, 1890, aged eighteen years. Mr. Lumley died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Tryon, in Chicago, Nov. 14, 1896, aged sixty-nine. Of their children, Clinton G. graduated from the University of Illinois and the Chicago Medical College, and is now a practicing physician in Chicago. He married Miss Nellie McLean, of Urbana, Ill.,

who is a graduate of the University of Illinois, and they have four children: Harold M., Leslie, Arlene and Dorothy. Edwin T. took courses in the Dixon Business College and the Illinois School of Pharmacy, and is a druggist in Chicago. Wallace J. graduated in both the institutions just named, and is now a resident of Elgin. Frank B. married Fred Tryon of McHenry County, and they had three children: Glendara H., who married W. V. Hoff, of Blue Island; Floyd C. and Verna E. Mr. Tryon died in 1894, and his widow now resides in Woodstock. Genevieve L. married George T. Goodnow, now connected with the firm of Benjamin Moore & Co., Chicago, and they have one child—Pauline. Wallace J. married Margaret Weast, and Edwin T. married Cecil Erickson. The last named couple have two children—Gerald and Bernice. Mrs. Thomas R. Lumley still survives and is a resident of Chicago. A woman of strong character and vigorous constitution, in early days, she bore her full part in maintaining the family home and in assisting her husband in the accumulation of his handsome property. Like her husband, she was a member of the Methodist church and retains her physical and mental vigor, with an especially retentive memory. In 1874 Mr. Lumley visited his old Yorkshire home in company with his daughter Frank B., to whose recollection are due some of the reminiscences of that interesting region comprised in this sketch.

Vincent S. Lumley was reared among the peaceful scenes of rural life in Ringwood Prairie, one of the most beautiful of the smaller prairies which dot the rich landscape of Northern Illinois. Here he passed his youthful days, and here attended the public schools, acquiring the foundation of a good education under the instruction of Rev. William Nickle, the veteran teacher of McHenry County, who speaks of Mr. Lumley as one of his brightest pupils. He next attended the Normal School at Normal, Ill., and later graduated from the Northern Business College at Dixon, where he was valedictorian of his class. After being engaged in teaching for a year at McHenry, Ill., he entered the Law Department of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, from which he graduated in 1888 at twenty years of age, being selected to deliver the class oration. The year previous, at nineteen years of age, he was admitted to

practice law in the State of Michigan, and at Ann Arbor, with a single exception, was the youngest student in a class of one hundred and forty-two, the others not only being older, but many of them able lawyers in active practice.

In 1888, the year of Mr. Lumley's graduation, he engaged in practice in Woodstock, McHenry County, in partnership with the late Judge T. D. Murphy, which was continued until the death of the latter. Since then he has practiced alone, and has been uniformly successful, establishing a large and lucrative practice. Politically he is a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and, in 1896, was elected to the office of State's Attorney for McHenry County, receiving a plurality of fifty-nine votes over that cast for President McKinley, and securing the largest majority ever given to any candidate for office in the county. During the past twelve years he has been connected with some of the most important cases tried before the courts of McHenry County. He was retained for the defense in the celebrated Delhanty murder case, and, in 1900, recovered from the city of Chicago \$11,000 as attorney in a suit for damages in behalf of Frank Gilbert. While Prosecuting Attorney he discharged his duty with fearless energy and efficiency, during his first term securing the conviction under sentences to the penitentiary of eight criminals who richly deserved their fate, and, during both terms, sending more guilty persons to Joliet than any Prosecuting Attorney before him, during this time losing but one case. Shrewd, incisive and aggressive, Mr. Lumley is a true type of the well-read and successful lawyer. Fearless and independent, he expresses his views in clear, concise and vigorous language, always talking to the point. He is one of the best read and most successful lawyers at the McHenry County bar, and his law library, purchased at a cost of \$3,500 is one of the largest private libraries in Northern Illinois.

In 1892 Mr. Lumley was united in marriage, at Woodstock, Ill., to Neva D. Bunker, who was born at Woodstock, the daughter of Amos and Dell (Sherman) Bunker. They have one daughter, Marjorie Dell. Fraternally Mr. Lumley is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of several benevolent associations.

Reverting to the family of Mrs. Thomas R.



W. S. Sumley







*Neva B. Lumley.*





Lumley, her father, Silas R. Mitchell, was born at Fairfield, Vt., March 25, 1752, the son of John Robert Mitchell. The latter was a soldier of the Revolution, who served under the command of Aaron Burr—then a captain—in the memorable expedition led by Benedict Arnold through the wilds of Northern Maine against Quebec in 1775. This expedition, which marked the beginning of the Revolutionary War, endured great suffering and privation. Later Mr. Mitchell served as Aid-de-camp on the staff of Gen. Washington. At a reception given by Gen. and Mrs. Washington, that lady dropped her handkerchief, when the young Aid-de-camp picked it up, and, returning it to her, gallantly kissed her hand. Gen. Washington, observing the act, jocularly remarked: "Take care, Robert, I will excuse you this time, but don't take such liberties again." In 1787 Mr. Mitchell, in company with Joseph Wheeler and John Sunderland, went to Vermont, where they became the first settlers at Fairfield in that State, and, it is said, lived for a time on basswood buds until they could raise a crop of corn. Mr. Mitchell married Jemima Sutherland who was born Nov. 25, 1750. She appears to have been a woman of rare physical and mental vigor; was the first white woman at Fairfield, Vt., and it is told of her that she could cut down a tree, two feet in diameter, as quickly as her husband. She was a famous spinner and weaver, and expert with the needle, and is said to have made the clothes for her family of ten children, whom she cared for while her husband was serving as a soldier in the War of 1812. When one hundred and four years old, it is said she could knit one pair of socks and "set up" another in a single day. She died July 7, 1862, nearly one hundred and twelve years old. Her husband died Sept. 8, 1842. Their children were: Thomas, Roswell, Hubbell, Silas Robert, Susan, Joan, Polly, Hepsy, Lydia and Delia.

Silas Robert Mitchell, of this family, was born in Vermont, Feb. 4, 1793, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812. His occupation was that of a miller. He married in Fairfield, Vt., Mary S. Hopkins, who was born at Burlington, Vt., the daughter of Noah and Clarissa (Castle) Hopkins. Her father was a native of Massachusetts and a brother of Stephen

Hopkins, who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The Castle family were from Connecticut. After the death of her husband, Noah Hopkins, his wife married John Castle, who was a soldier of the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Plattsburg, on that occasion being shot through the hand. Uriah, the son of John Castle, was an officer in the same war, and also served in the Civil War with his brother Horace, who was fatally wounded and died at Bowling Green, Ky. Noah Hopkins and wife had but one child, Mary S. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. John Castle moved to Vermont, where he cleared up a farm in the woods. Their children were: Joel, Squire, Uriah, Stanley, Horace, John, Clarissa, Minerva and Emeline. John Castle died in Ashtabula County, Ohio, aged ninety years, and Mrs. Castle at eighty-five.

After his marriage to Mary S. Hopkins, in 1824, Silas Robert Mitchell moved to Warsaw, N. Y., and, in 1829, to Ashtabula County, Ohio, where he bought 200 acres of land; was also the owner of a large "sugar bush," where he manufactured much maple sugar. He and his wife were Methodists and they raised a family of twelve children: Emily Jeannette, born at Fairfield, Vt., April 18, 1822, died at Kingsville, Ohio, Nov. 30, 1843; Emeline Cecilia, born in Vermont, Dec. 23, 1823, died May 14, 1901; Adelia Caroline, born in Vermont, Nov. 8, 1825, died Oct. 27, 1895; Lucy Ann, born June 1, 1827, died April 13, 1886; Amasa Castle, born at Warsaw, N. Y., Sept. 18, 1829; Chester Potter, born at Kingsville, Ohio, May 8, 1834, died Dec. 13, 1871; Ann Eliza, born Feb. 22, 1836; Helen Maria, born Oct. 15, 1838, died July 28, 1856; Frances Adelaide, born April 20, 1840; Alice Jeannette, born Oct. 2, 1844, died Jan. 2, 1878; Mary Isadore, born at Kingsville, Ohio, July 26, 1847, died in 1850. Mr. Mitchell was a man of strictly moral and temperate habits, and conscientiously refrained from profane language and the use of liquor or tobacco. The Mitchells were of colonial Puritan ancestry, and of the same stock as Gen. O. M. Mitchell, the astronomer and soldier of the Civil War. Silas Robert Mitchell died Jan. 9, 1876, and his wife at Kingsville, Ohio, in 1873.

## SAMUEL L. LINCOLN.

Samuel L. Lincoln, of Harvard, Ill., is one of the old settlers of McHenry County, where he was, for many years, a teacher in the public schools. The Lincolns are of English Puritan stock and came to America in the old colonial days, being among the founders of Massachusetts. General Lincoln, of Revolutionary fame, was of the same line, and it is now well established that President Abraham Lincoln's ancestors came from Massachusetts to Virginia.

Purvis Lincoln was the great-grandfather of Samuel L., and Daniel Lincoln, the grandfather, was born in Vermont, and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, being one of the famous "Green Mountain Boys." He also served in the War of 1812. In the former he was present at the capture of Ticonderoga by Ethan Allen, and in the latter belonged to the land forces in the battle of Lake Erie. He was promoted to be an officer, but his rank is not remembered. He was a farmer by occupation, and when he was but nineteen years of age married, for his first wife, Eunice Bragg, in New York State. The Braggs were of the same original stock as the famous rebel Gen. Bragg. After marriage Daniel Lincoln settled on new land and opened up a farm in the Genesee Flats, near Batavia, N. Y. He then moved to Alexander Township, in the Genesee Flats, where he cleared a large farm of 300 to 400 acres, which he divided among his sons before his marriage to his second wife. The children by his first marriage were: Daniel, Emory, Calvin, Eunice, Arathusia, Rial, Apollos and Lucius. His first wife died when about sixty years of age, after which he married a second time and lived with his second wife for more than thirty-three years. He died on his farm in Alexander Township, in January, 1862, aged ninety-seven years and seven months. For his day he was a man of considerable property and his advice was much sought after. He was Colonel of a militia regiment, was a natural athlete, at sixty years of age being able to jump further than most young men, and at the old-fashioned musters could shoulder the heaviest load of stone. In religion he was an Old School Baptist. The farm in Genesee County, N. Y., is still held in the family name.

Apollos Lincoln, son of Daniel Lincoln and

father of Samuel L., was born in Brattleboro, Vt., June 2, 1802, and when a child in arms went with the family to New York. He gained a common-school education and was reared a farmer and expert woodman. He married in May, 1828, in Genesee County, N. Y., Melissa Waite, born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., April 2, 1802, daughter of William Waite. Mr. Waite was of an old colonial family of Massachusetts of English descent, was a soldier of the Revolution at the capture\* of Fort Ticonderoga and, in 1812, with the land forces at the battle of Lake Erie. He was a farmer of Genesee County, N. Y., where he was a pioneer. He finally settled on a farm at West Valley, Cattaraugus County, where he built a saw and flouring-mill and a tannery. He died in October, 1864, aged ninety-seven years and six months. He was a remarkably well preserved man and, at the age of ninety-seven years, could read the "New York Tribune" without glasses—in fact, had never worn glasses, and had no gray hairs on his head. The children of William Waite and wife were: Weston, Lorin, Alvira, Eesic, Melissa, Henry and Fannie. In religious belief Mr. Waite was a Baptist. He was married three times—the last time being when he was over sixty years of age—and he lived with his wife over thirty years. He died at West Valley, N. Y.

Apollos Lincoln settled after marriage at Alexander, N. Y., on land of his own. The winter he was twenty-four years of age he assisted in cutting the ship timber from Grand Island, in the Niagara River below Buffalo, in this work having the direction of the best company of men. This island was heavily wooded and it required two years to cut off the timber, which was shipped to England. The island belonged to an old New York "Patroon" family, and the clearing of it was one of the great events of the day in that region. Mr. Lincoln, having sold his land in Genesee County, moved to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where he cleared up another farm. In June, 1845, he removed to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey with his family on a steamboat from Buffalo to Chicago, and hauling his goods from Crystal Lake by teams. After living on rented land for four years, he bought 120 acres of timberland in Nunda Township, on which a little timber had been cut and a log-cabin had been built. He cleared up this land and finally made



a good home. Having sold this farm, he bought another, in Marengo Township, consisting of seventy-eight acres of cleared land, and here passed the rest of his life, dying Feb. 23, 1880, aged seventy-eight years. Mr. Lincoln was a member of the Baptist church, and in politics originally a Democrat, but became an early Republican, supporting John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency. His death was caused by injuries which he had received from an accident many years previous, the ribs on his left side having been crushed. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Apollos Lincoln were: Gooding W., Henry M., Elizabeth A., Eunice A., Mary S., Samuel L. and Omar H.

Samuel L. Lincoln was born in Alexander Township, Genesee County, N. Y., June 7, 1840, and was an infant when his father moved to Cattaraugus County, and was not quite five years old when he moved to Illinois. He can well remember the old double log house in which they lived in New York and some of the scenes and incidents of the voyage on Lake Erie. He received his education chiefly in Illinois, but had attended school in New York. He attended one of the early schools in Crystal Lake, in a small frame school house, and later different schools in Nunda Township, in the Huffman District and then on Fox River in the first school house in what is now the Lincoln District. He helped draw the lumber and stone and assisted to build the school house. He was sixteen years old when he attended Wauconda Academy two terms, working at farm work during the summer. He began teaching at seventeen years of age while attending the academy in the winter of 1857-8 in Cuba Township, Lake County, and taught every winter for a period of thirty-four years. All his teaching was in Boone, Lake and McHenry Counties, and his is probably the longest record as a teacher in these counties. His brother, Omar, has taught longer and is still employed in the same line, but in other localities. Many persons who are now grown men and women and the heads of families, and scattered over the West in various pursuits of life, were among his pupils. Mr. Lincoln was married April 15, 1868, in Ridgefield, McHenry County, to Julia E. Francisco, who was born in McHenry County, Feb. 26, 1847, daughter of Peter and Sarah (Ingalls) Francisco. The

Francisco family is descended from French ancestors who were early settlers of Western New York, and there is a tradition that there is a large amount of property in France which properly belongs to the family. They were Protestants, probably of Huguenot stock. Like many of the French Huguenots, the family intermarried freely with the Holland Dutch. John Francisco, the grandfather of Mrs. Lincoln, was a farmer of Genesee County, N. Y., and his wife, Elizabeth Near, was of Holland Dutch stock. He moved to Ohio at an early day, and there all his children were born and there he died. Their children were: Charity, Abraham, Sallie, Hester, Charles, Peter, Martha (Patty) and Margaret—the last three being triplets. Martha (or Patty) became Mrs. Fosdick, now a well-known resident of Woodstock, and Margaret married William D. Hoege, but died several years ago. Mrs. John Francisco came to McHenry County, Ill., with her children, and died at the home of her daughter Charity, aged over ninety years.

Peter Francisco, born near Mentor, Ohio, June 16, 1819, about 1844 came to McHenry County, driving a yoke of oxen for his brother-in-law, Hubbard Whitlock, who had married his sister Hester Francisco, and had entered land in that locality. Here Peter Francisco entered 180 acres of Government land and, on Jan. 1, 1846, near Ringwood, McHenry County, married Sarah Ann Ingalls, who was born in Jefferson County, N. Y., April 9, 1828, the daughter of Warren and Matilda (Brown) Ingalls, and at the time of her marriage, eighteen years of age. Oliver Ingalls was a pioneer of Jefferson County, N. Y., and died of cholera while on a land-hunting expedition. The children were: Alpheus O., Sarah A. and Charlotte O. The Ingalls family were of old New England ancestry. After marriage Peter Francisco settled on his land and cleared his farm from the oak timber which encumbered it. He added to his farm until he owned 100 acres, erected upon it good buildings and became a prosperous farmer. The children were: Julia E., born Feb. 26, 1847; Delia Ann, born Nov. 29, 1849; Albert, born Oct. 15, 1852; Warren I., born April 7, 1855; Myron, born Nov. 18, 1857, and Annie M., born June 21, 1861—all born on the old homestead in McHenry County, and all still living. Politically Mr. Francisco was a Lincoln Republican, and an honored citi-



zen of his township. He served as a member of the School Board many years. Mr. Francisco died on his farm, Dec. 13, 1872, as the result of an accident, and his wife June 6, 1896. The Francisco homestead is now owned by Myron and Annie M. Francisco.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln settled at Marengo and lived there about twelve years and was engaged in teaching and renting land. In 1881 he moved to his present home farm in Hartland Township, which consists of 163 acres. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. Lincoln are: Earl G., born June 22, 1869; Charity M., born April 12, 1872; Herbert W., born June 30, 1875; Clara B., born June 14, 1878; Albert W., born Feb. 22, 1881; George M., born May 29, 1884, and Samuel Leon, born Sept. 20, 1889. Of these children, Earl G. married, May 15, 1899, Mary Sophia Straudt, of Amherst, Neb., and they have one child, Warren M. Their daughter, Charity M. married, Jan. 1, 1891, Ellsworth C. Hammond, who is a contractor residing in Harvard, and has been Road Commissioner of Chemung Township for the past five years. He and his wife have five children: Dorris J., Bernice A., Gladys E., Vernon and one child unnamed. Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln suffered a sad calamity on April 22, 1897, in the death of their two promising sons, —Herbert W. and Albert W.—both dying of diphtheria on the same day.

Mr. Lincoln is a member of the Methodist church. In politics he first voted for Abraham Lincoln at his first election, and afterwards became a Democrat and voted for William J. Bryan. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace, and has been a member of the School Board many years. Mr. Lincoln was one of the organizers of the McHenry County Teachers' Institute, about 1860-1, and a member of the committee appointed to draft the by-laws for the organization, having as associates on this committee A. W. Cummings, of Chemung, and Edward Hayden, of Nunda Township.

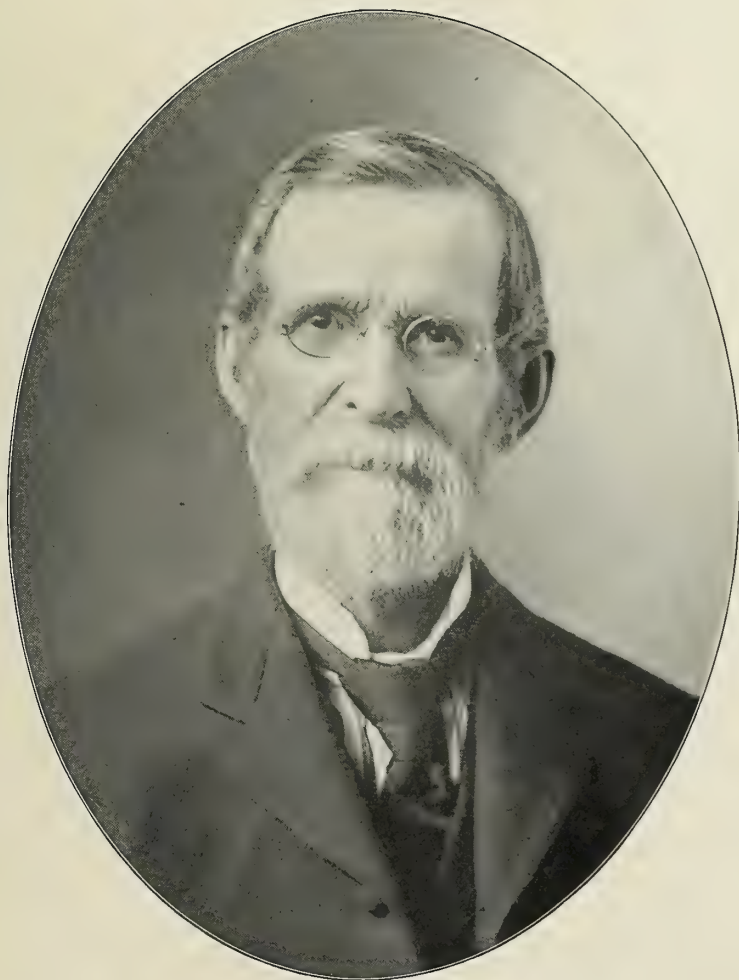
#### LEVI LAKE.

Levi Lake came of that old sturdy New England stock which has given to this country so much of its honor, intelligence and industry. He was born in Otsego County, N. Y., August 24, 1816, son of Phipps Waldo and Rebecca

(Beardsley) Lake. His great-grandfather was one of the old "Patroons," and owned a large tract of land on the border of New York and Vermont, but by adhering to the British cause as a Tory, was obliged to flee to Canada and his estate was confiscated.

Henry Lake, the grandfather, was born on his father's estate and served as a patriot soldier in the War of the American Revolution. He married Jemima Waldo, a descendant of the famous Governor Phipps, who was rewarded by George III. of England by being made Governor of colonial Massachusetts for raising a rich Spanish galleon, or treasure-ship. Soon after marriage, Henry Lake settled in Otsego County, N. Y., and cleared up a farm from the heavily timbered wilderness. His children were: Daniel, Nicholas, Phipps W., Jedediah, David, Henry, Jr., Valorous, Jarvis M., Calvin, Rosanna and Lucretia, the last two being twins who died in infancy. Mr. Lake spent all his active days on his farm, but in his old age moved to Montgomery County, N. Y., and passed the remainder of his life in the village of Ames. He was a member of the Free-Will Baptist church, in which he was a deacon for many years, during the latter years of his life being called "Father Lake."

Phipps Waldo Lake, the father of Levi, was born at Plainfield, Otsego County, N. Y., received a common-school education and studied law, but finally prepared for the ministry and became a Free-Will Baptist minister. He was one of the pioneers of this denomination in New York State and one of its leading ministers for many years; also served as a soldier at Sackett's Harbor during the War of 1812. He married, in Richfield, Otsego County, N. Y., Rebecca Beardsley, whose parents were of English ancestry and early colonial settlers. Mr. Lake preached in Cortland and Montgomery Counties, N. Y., and then settled in Ames, Canajoharie Township, Montgomery County, where he preached for fourteen years, and having purchased 250 acres of land, became a successful farmer. In the spring of 1839 he became a pioneer settler in Big Foot Prairie, Walworth County, Wis., where he bought 640 acres of land, 100 acres of which had previously been broken, and a crop of corn, wheat and oats planted. Mr. Lake made extensive improvements on his land, built a frame house, which is still standing, and here passed the re-



*J. O. Lewis*





mainder of his life, dying in 1860, about seventy-two years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Lake were the parents of Polly (who died when about fifty-six years of age), Beardsley, Levi, Lucretia (who died a married woman), Rebecca, Waldo, Sarah and Mary, the last two twins. Six of their children are still living, the youngest being over seventy years of age. Mr. Lake was a speaker of much ability and preached to the early settlers of Walworth County, besides having charge of a church at Lake Geneva for several years. Politically he was in early days an old line Whig, but later became a Republican and represented his party in the Wisconsin Legislature for two years.

Levi Lake, the immediate subject of this article, received a common-school education, and later attended the academy at Ames, N. Y., for several terms. When twenty-one years of age he engaged with the Saratoga Mutual Insurance Company, and remained in this business until he came west in 1839. On the trip west Mr. Lake made the journey by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo, the lakes to Chicago, and then by wagon to Big Foot Prairie, where he arrived July 22. He managed his father's farm until the fall of 1839, when he engaged at farm labor for himself, renting part of his father's land on shares for a time. In 1840 he returned to New York and married at Root, Montgomery County, January 17, Lydia Maria Winnie, who was born in that place Oct. 6, 1819, daughter of Lucas Winnie. The Winnies were of Holland-Dutch stock, descended from an old colonial family of that name in New Jersey. Lucas Winnie was a wealthy farmer of Montgomery County, where his father had cleared up a farm as a pioneer. His children were: Lydia M., Rachael, Eliza, Susan Ann and Harriet.

After marriage Mr. Lake returned to Big Foot Prairie, and in 1843 bought 100 acres of unimproved land from the Government for \$1.25 per acre, upon which he made extensive improvements, built a frame house and had a good home and farm. Three years later he returned to New York, and there managed one of his father-in-law's farms, which he afterwards bought. He remained there for twenty years, and then (in 1867), returning, settled at Harvard, McHenry County, engaging in the lumber business. Four years later he retired from this business, investing his capital in

Michigan pine land, with profitable results. Mr. and Mrs. Lake were the parents of children named: Ann Eliza, Monroe, Jane, Kittie, Mary, Hattie, besides three others who died in infancy. They were both members of the Free-Will Baptist church, in which Mr. Lake was clerk and chorister, at Ames, N. Y., for many years. Originally an old line Whig, he became a Republican on the organization of that party and voted for Abraham Lincoln. In his younger days Mr. Lake was a very active and industrious man and noted for his upright character. Mrs. Lake, a woman of many virtues and greatly beloved by all her acquaintances, died in December, 1892.

Coming west at an early day, Mr. Lake has spent many years of his life in Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, and has witnessed the development of this region almost from its infancy to the present time. He was clerk of the first town-meeting in Walworth County, Wis., and is the only man now living who attended that gathering. He built the first frame barn on Big Foot Prairie, and helped to gather the first corn-crop on that prairie, his father having bought the crop standing in the field. Mr. Lake had a severe spell of sickness when eighty-five years of age, but previous to that time had scarcely felt the approach of age. Retaining the energy of a man in the prime of life, he could mount a horse with ease, enjoying the exercise as much as in his younger days.

#### JAMES OLIVER LEWIS.

James Oliver Lewis, pioneer settler of Big Foot Prairie, Walworth County, Wis., now a resident of Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., is descended from Eastern New York ancestry. His grandfather, Moses Lewis, born in New York State east of the Hudson River, enlisted as a soldier during the latter part of the Revolutionary War, but saw no active service. He was of English and French descent. Having married Martha Fisk, Moses Lewis first settled in Saratoga, but in 1799 removed to Cherry Valley, in Otsego County, where he bought a considerable tract of land and cleared up a farm in the forest on Bowman's Creek, upon which he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of eighty-six years. He had a family of thirteen children—four sons, Moses, Ezra, Morgan and Theodore, and nine daughters, Cyn-

thia, who married a Mr. Brush; Martha, married a Mr. Terhune; Annie, married a Mr. Briggs; Lydia, married a Mr. Flint; Mariah, married a Mr. Van Dusen, and Betsy, who married a Mr. Gamble and removed to the State of Ohio. Huldah, Dercha and Lavanchia died in childhood. Mr. Lewis was a Methodist in religious belief and in politics a Jacksonian Democrat. He accumulated a goodly property for his day and the old Lewis homestead, which he established in Otsego County, still belongs to the family.

Morgan Lewis of this family, and father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Cherry Valley, Otsego County, N. Y., received a common-school education and became a farmer, also being engaged in the mercantile and milling business. He married Catherine Seeber, who was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., the daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Moyer) Seeber, who were of Holland stock and early "Mohawk Dutch" settlers. Jacob Seeber and wife were the parents of children named: Solomon, Deloss, Mary, Eliza, Lena, Margaret, Ann and Catherine. Mr. Seeber was a substantial farmer, and his home, like that of the Lewises, is still retained in the hands of the members of the family. After his marriage, Morgan Lewis settled on a part of the paternal homestead, and there built a grist and saw-mill. He was also the owner of a clover mill and a mill for grinding plaster used as fertilizing material by the farmers of that region. As his business extended, he also built a store and a hotel at Salt Springville, both of which were conducted under his personal supervision. As may be readily inferred, he was a prominent citizen as well as an energetic and successful business man. He was twice married, his children by his first marriage being Elizabeth (who married George Hawver, died in January, 1851, leaving one son, Lewis Hawver); James Oliver (the subject of this sketch), Jay Seeber, Martha, Washington, Catherine, Huldah, Cynthia, Albert and Maggie. His second wife was a Miss Eveline Willis, who bore him children named Lydia, Elizabeth and Ida. Morgan Lewis was liberal in his religious views and in politics a Democrat. He maintained a reputation for high integrity and enjoyed the respect of the community.

James Oliver Lewis was born on his father's farm in Cherry Valley, N. Y., received a good

common-school education and, during his youth, worked in his father's mill and on the farm. In 1850, having reached his twenty-first year, he came to Big Foot, Walworth County, Wis., where he arrived with less than fifty cents in his pocket. Here he engaged in farming "on shares" and later taught school one term at Burr Oak, Boone County, Ill.; also, was employed in farm work by Mark Pierce, of Big Foot Prairie. Returning to New York in May, 1852, he assumed the management of his father's farm, but again coming to Illinois, on December 25, 1853, he was married in Chemung Township, McHenry County, to Sarah Jane Bentley, who was born at Berlin, Rensselaer County, N. Y., the daughter of Rudolph and Christina (Price) Bentley. Mrs. Lewis' father was the son of Caleb Bentley, a native of Rensselaer County, N. Y., and of Scotch-Irish extraction. Caleb Bentley was a farmer at Berlin, N. Y., and was twice married, having a son named Uriah by his first marriage. The children by his second marriage were: Darius, Alexander, Cyrus, Rudolphus and Melancthon; besides two daughters: Polly Ann who married Nathaniel Smith and died in California, at the home of her son, Judge B. N. Smith, at the age of one hundred and four years, and Betsy, who married a Mr. Thomas Harvey. Caleb Bentley died on his farm in New York at an advanced age. His son, Rudolphus Bentley, born on his father's farm in Rensselaer County, N. Y., became a farmer and married Christina Price, who was born in New York State. Having settled on a farm in his native State, he remained there until 1846, when the family removed to Illinois, settling in Chemung Township, McHenry County. Here he bought 400 acres of land and became one of the substantial farmers of that section, dying there at the age of fifty-nine years. In politics he was a Republican. His children were: John, Caleb, Jane, James, Harriet, David and Josephine. He accumulated a handsome property and was widely respected.

After marriage in Chemung Township, McHenry County, in 1853, James Oliver Lewis and wife settled on the old Lewis homestead in New York, which Mr. Lewis had purchased, remaining there until 1870, when they again came to Illinois. Here Mr. Lewis purchased 300 acres of improved land in Chemung Township, four miles north of Harvard, upon which



*Sarah Gane Lewis*





he established a good home. Later he erected upon this land substantial barns and other farm buildings, besides adding to it ninety acres on the State line, which he has since sold. He still retains the original home farm of 300 acres, which he has greatly improved, and also owns excellent residence property in Harvard, where he located in 1887. Mr. Lewis has one daughter who lived to years of maturity, named Harriet Lucille. She married Dr. Charles Treat, and they have one daughter, Margaret Jane, who is now a pupil in the Harvard High School. Mr. Lewis is a member of the Methodist church, in politics is a Democrat, and has served one term as a member of the Board of Aldermen of the city of Harvard. He has taken great interest in advancing farmers' mutual insurance, being Secretary for several years of the Dunham and Chemung Township Mutual Fire Insurance Company, now composed of nine Townships; was also Secretary of the Harvard Mutual County Cyclone Insurance Company, until its corporation with the Rockford Farmers' District Mutual Tornado Insurance Company. Possessing superior business qualifications, by his sagacity and thrifty business methods, he has accumulated a handsome competence. By a life of strict morality and consistent integrity, he has won the confidence and respect of all who know him.

#### ARTHUR P. LYMBURNER.

It would have been remarkable for a great enterprise, like the Oliver Typewriter manufactory, to have had its inception, growth and development without the great city of the Middle West taking a hand in furnishing not only the men of capital to back it, but some of the most able foremen and important agents connected with its practical management. Thus, Arthur P. Lymburner, the capable and proficient foreman of the electro-plating and polishing department of the "Oliver," is a native of the city of Chicago, where he was born June 29, 1872, the son of Ferdinand J. Lymburner, an expert electro-plater, who, for many years, conducted an electro-plating establishment in that city. Arthur P., the subject of this sketch, received his education in the King Grammar School, Chicago, from which he graduated. He then learned the electro-plating business in his father's establishment, entering upon his appren-

ticeship at sixteen years of age. He has been in the employment of some of the best firms in the country, and has established a reputation as a capable workman. Among these firms is that of Schriber & Conchar, of Dubuque, Iowa, with which he was connected in 1891. He was afterwards foreman, for a time, of the Excelsior Brass Works, at Dubuque, and still later for two years connected with the Chantloup Brass Works of Montreal, Canada. In 1894 he became connected with the "Oliver Typewriter Works," then located at Epworth, Iowa, and has been in the employ of the company ever since. He is thus one of the original workmen on the "Oliver," and closely identified with the enterprise throughout its history. He put in the first electro-plating and polishing plant for the company at Epworth, beginning this branch of the work in a small way with but one assistant. On the removal of the plant to Woodstock in 1896, he came with it as foreman of his department, and has proved himself master of the situation. Probably no branch of the business has increased more rapidly in effectiveness and power of production than that under the charge of Mr. Lymburner. He now has seventeen men under his direction, and here all the electro-plating and polishing work in finishing the machines is done, making them the embodiment of perfection in this branch of work. The machine is first plated with copper and then with nickel, with a view not only to beautifying its appearance but to prevent rust. Mr. Lymburner was married in Woodstock, Feb. 22, 1898, to Matilda Kappler, daughter of Louis and Magdalene (Retterer) Kappler, and a native of that city. Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Lymburner have one child, Eleanor Cecilia. Fraternally Mr. Lymburner is a member of the Iowa Lodge, No. 324, I. O. O. F.

Ferdinand J. Lymburner, the father of Arthur P. Lymburner, was born in St. Stanislaus, County of Champlain, Province of Quebec, Canada. His grandfather, the first of the family to emigrate to America, was a native of Scotland, who settled in the Province of Quebec at an early day. He had a son named Ferdinand, who was a farmer and had a family of fourteen children, of whom the oldest was named Ferdinand J. The latter was an electro-plater, and worked at his trade in different parts of Canada and the United States—includ-

ing, among other places, Philadelphia, New York City and Chicago—in the latter city conducting a shop. At present he is a resident of North Yakima, Yakima County, Wash., where he is engaged in fruit culture. Ferdinand J. Lymburner married Angeline Lyard, the daughter of Joseph and Angeline Lyard, and a native of L'Assomption, Province of Quebec. He and his wife are the parents of nine children, namely: Lydia, Ferdinand, Cecilia, Joseph, Ida, Ferreol, Arthur P. (subject of this sketch), Hilda and one who died in infancy. Lydia is the wife of Thomas Rutter, and lives in North Yakima, Wash.; Ferdinand (deceased) died in Chicago; Cecilia, now Mrs. Burt Storr, has three children—Minnie, Arthur and Myrtle; Joseph married Anna Oxford, lives in Chicago, and they have two children—Ruth and Joseph; Ida, wife of Charles F. Jaeger, a wholesale liquor-dealer of Dubuque, Iowa—they have had nine children, of whom six are living, viz.: Carl, Victor, Mercedes, Arthur, Lester and Elden; Ferreol, married Viola Dockstader, lives in Dubuque, Iowa, and they have four children—Ferreol, Ovid, Viola and Lucille; Hilda, wife of James P. Brink, lives in Woodstock and they have one son named Millard.

#### TIMOTHY LAWLOR.

Timothy Lawlor is a representative citizen of Hartland Township and son of one of the respected Irish settlers who was a true descendant of the Celtic race. The father, John Lawlor, was born in County Kerry, Ireland, Oct. 8, 1801, the son of Timothy and Bridget (Bolton) Lawlor. Bridget Bolton was of English ancestry, the daughter of Captain Lucius Bolton, a sailor. John Lawlor was a ship carpenter by trade, and married Margaret, daughter of Michael and Mary (Dillon) Lawlor, who was of the same original ancestry, but not a near relative. Mr. Lawlor came to America in 1852 and settled in Hartland Township, where he bought forty acres of woodland, upon which he built a log cabin and, in 1854, sent for his family. His children were all born in Ireland and were named Bridget (who died a married woman), Timothy, Michael and Bessie. Mr. Lawlor and his family sailed from Sanpin, County Kerry, Ireland, in the good ship "Jennie Johnson," which was an old-fashioned sailing ves-

sel, and they were eight weeks and three days on the voyage to Quebec, where they arrived in the fall of the year, reaching Hartland Township in November of the same year, by way of the lakes to Chicago. Mr. Lawlor was an industrious man and had a good share of the thriftiness of the best class of Irish Celts. He cleared up his farm, to which he made subsequent additions until he owned 180 acres. It is quite natural for an Irishman to be a Democrat, as their forefathers have suffered for generations from the oppressions of the aristocratic ruling classes of England, and Mr. Lawlor had in his heart an intense hatred for any form of government not founded on the principles of freedom and rights of the individual, and was therefore a firm believer in democracy as taught by the great founders. He taught his sons the doctrine of the greatest good to the greatest number. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lawlor were members of the Catholic church, of which they were devout and loyal supporters, and their church in Hartland Township was the first erected in this section of the country. In Ireland Mr. Lawlor owned an old "freehold" on which he paid but a nominal rent. His independence of character cost him the property, as he insisted upon voting for the great Daniel O'Connell, the Irish agitator, in opposition to the wishes of the landed proprietors, and, when the next heir to the old estate came into power, he was dispossessed. During our Civil War Mr. Lawlor was a strong Union man and had one son, Michael Lawlor, who served two years as Second Lieutenant in the Second Illinois Engineer Corps and was a good soldier. He was killed in Hartland Township in 1862. John Lawlor died Oct. 8, 1880.

Timothy Lawlor, the immediate subject of this article, was born in County Kerry, Ireland, near Tralee, April 4, 1847. There is a tradition in the family that, in remote times, the family came from Queens County. Timothy Lawlor was about seven years old when he crossed the ocean with his mother and her family, and, after his family reached McHenry County, attended the district school in Hartland Township, where he gained a fair common-school education. He was reared to habits of industry on the farm, and, when a young man, went to Montana, where he engaged in railroad work. Later he became a





*Hiram J. Lockwood*



contractor and spent several years at contract work in Montana and Dakota. In 1883 he returned to Hartland Township and settled on the old homestead, consisting of 180 acres, which he inherited, and later bought more land until now he owns over 400 acres. From his Celtic ancestors Mr. Lawlor inherited a sanguine temperament and an active mind, and had he been born amid other environments and reared under more favorable circumstances, his retentive memory and natural love of literature would have enabled him to fill a more prominent position. He is a great lover of history, and is well read in this important branch of study, as well as a wide reader of the general press, thus keeping himself well informed on all important subjects. He is a lover of liberty and the rights of man, and is a staunch defender of Democratic principles. Like his parents he is a member of the Catholic church.

#### HIRAM J. LOCKWOOD.

Hiram J. Lockwood (deceased), pioneer settler of Grafton Township, McHenry County, was born in Yates County, N. Y., Feb. 20, 1818, the son of Joshua and Polly (Pierce) Lockwood—the Pierce branch of the family being of the same general stock as President Pierce, of New Hampshire. The father, Joshua Lockwood, was a native of Vermont and of New England Puritan ancestry, and while a young man served as a soldier in the War of 1812. In early life he settled in Yates County, N. Y., where he followed the occupation of a millwright, and was also a farmer and owner of a small farm. He was twice married, his first wife bearing him one son named Willam. His second wife, who was Miss Polly Pierce, already mentioned, was the mother of children named Jesse, Sarah, Mary, Calvin, Hiram J., Betsy and Melida. Joshua Lockwood was a Baptist in religious belief and died in New York State between sixty and seventy years of age.

The son, Hiram J. Lockwood, received an ordinary common-school education in his native county and, while a young man, was employed in the lumber business, afterwards removed to Michigan, where he worked in the lumber mills near Grand Rapids. He also

bought 200 acres of Government land in that vicinity, but on account of the prevalence of fever and ague in that region did not long remain. In the fall of 1840, he came to McHenry county, Ill., and there bought 160 acres of land in Dorr Township, now owned by George K. Bunker. This land he partly improved, but two years later removed to Grafton Township, where he entered 160 acres on Section 8. In March, 1846, he married in McHenry County, Mary Barber, the widow of Ichabod Barber (nee Haffey), born in New York State in 1822, the daughter of John and Ann Haffey. His wife having died six months after marriage, on June 14, 1849, he married, as his second wife, Louisa Fox, of Grafton Township, McHenry County, born in Ellicottsville, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., Sept. 25, 1828, the daughter of Pliny and Polly (Fellows) Fox. Pliny L. Fox was a native of Tolland County, Conn., born May 8, 1799, the son of Thomas and Chloe (Bradley) Fox. Thomas Fox was a clothier in Tolland County, nearly all his life, but moved to Kingston, N. Y., where he settled on new land and where, some eighteen months later, he died a comparatively young man. He and his wife, Chloe (Bradley) Fox, were the parents of the following named children: W. B., Chauncy D., Pliny L., Mary, Eliza and Harriet. The family were Presbyterians. Pliny L. Fox received the usual common-school education of his time in Tolland County, Conn., and, at seventeen years of age, in company with his brother Chauncy D., then nineteen years old, went on foot to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where they were the earliest settlers and founders of the town of Ellicottsville. Here they engaged in the lumber business working in the woods and rafting logs down the Allegheny River. Later the two brothers read law and became well-known and prominent lawyers of Ellicottsville. About 1827 Pliny L. Fox married Polly Fellows, daughter of John and Eunice (Hurd) Fellows. The Hurds and the Fellows both came from Connecticut to Onondaga County, N. Y., where they were pioneers. His first wife having died, in October, 1840, Mr. Fox married at New Albion, N. Y., where he had sometime previously located, Laura Hungerford. The children by his first wife were: Louisa, born Sept. 25,



1828; Mary, born Dec. 9, 1831; Bronson, born March 24, 1834; and by his second wife: Ann C., born July 2, 1842; Ellen A., born May 14, 1844; Charles J., born June 24, 1846; Laura U., born February, 1853; and William J., born February, 1855. In 1852 Pliny L. Fox came to McHenry County, Ill., but soon after removed to DeKalb County, Ill., where he practiced his profession up to the time of the Civil War. He was a Democrat in politics and took an active interest in political and national affairs, being a frequent speaker on the stump. A strong Union man, after the outbreak of the Civil War, he assisted in raising several companies of volunteers, and although over sixty years of age, served for six months as Captain of a company, but was compelled to resign on account of failing health. He was a Universalist in religious belief and a man of liberal views and patriotic impulses, as shown by his service during the war. He died in DeKalb, Ill., about 1885, aged about eighty-six years.

After marriage Hiram J. Lockwood settled on his farm in Grafton Township, McHenry County, which he had already somewhat improved. Here he lived about fourteen years, still further improving his farm, which he then sold and bought 240 acres on Section 1, Coral Township, also buying forty acres additional in Dorr Township. Mr. Lockwood was a Democrat in politics, a Universalist in religion and a Union man during the war. He held the office of Road Commissioner and, at various times, other township offices. His children—all borne by his second wife—were: Pliny F., born May 19, 1850; and Mary M., born Dec. 18, 1851. Three others—William, Charles F., and Ellen J.—all died in infancy.

Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Lockwood has resided in Union, McHenry County. In her youth she received a good common-school education and, at the age of seventeen years, began teaching at Leon, Cattaraugus County, N. Y. She came to McHenry County, Ill., in March, 1847, with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Huntley—the latter being a sister of her father. After coming to McHenry County, she taught school the following summer in Grafton Township, and during the summer and winter of 1848 at Crystal Lake, in June, 1849, being married to Mr. Lockwood. Mrs. Lockwood is one of the few pioneer teachers of McHenry

County still surviving, and, endowed with a well-stored mind and a retentive memory, possesses a rare fund of reminiscence. She and her husband were active participants in founding the Universalist church at Union.

Pliny F., son of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram J. Lockwood, married in Oregon, Belle McLean, who died in that State in 1887. He then returned with his two children—Claude M. and Hattie B.—to Union, McHenry County, where he died April 6, 1897.

Mary M. Lockwood, the only surviving child of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram J. Lockwood, married in Coral Township, Feb. 22, 1872, Joseph E. Goodrick, a farmer, and they have had two children: Minnie E., born May 18, 1875, and Mary L., born Oct. 31, 1877. Minnie E. married Charles B. Rogers, and they are residents of Knoxville, Tenn., and have two children—Howard A. and Helen. Mary L. married John W. Clark, a resident of Chicago, and they have three children—Frances G., Marguerite and Norma R.

Both Hiram J. Lockwood and his father-in-law, Pliny L. Fox, were members of the Masonic fraternity, and Mrs. Lockwood and her daughter, Mary M. Goodrick, are members of the Star Chapter branch of the same order, and of the Laurel Rebecca Lodge affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

#### THOMAS LINDSAY.

Thomas Lindsay (deceased), is of Scotch ancestry, being third in line of descent of the same name, all being natives of Scotland, and both he and his father among the pioneers of McHenry County. His grandfather, Thomas Lindsay (1), was a brewer at Strathaven, Scotland, and a member of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, who died at Strathaven aged about sixty years. His wife's name was Isabel, and they left a number of children, those remembered being Alexander, Thomas and Isabel. The second of these, Thomas (2), was born in 1808, received an ordinary education and, in his youth, learned the trade of a stone-cutter and builder. In the early '30s he was married at Strathaven to Marion Marshall of the same place, born March 20, 1807, the daughter of Archibald Marshall, who was a weaver by trade and died in his native Scot-



*Mrs. Miriam J. Lockwood.*





land at an advanced age. Among his children who are remembered were Andrew, John and Marion. Mr. Lindsay emigrated to America in 1838, making the voyage of eight weeks from Glasgow in a sailing vessel, and arriving in New York in July of that year. He found employment on the Erie Canal, cutting stone for the locks, and living for about two years at Syracuse and Little Falls. In 1840 he removed to Illinois, settling in Dorr Township, McHenry County, where he purchased eighty acres of Government land to which he afterwards added eighty acres more. He built a log-cabin on the tract first entered, in which he lived some fifteen years, when he erected a small frame house, meanwhile improving his land and building up a comfortable pioneer home. He and his wife were parents of seven children—the two oldest born in Scotland and the others in America, viz.: Jeannette, born March, 1834; Thomas, born July 23, 1836; Christina M., born Oct. 1, 1838; Archibald, born Nov. 3d, 1840; Isabel, born November, 1842; Mary A., born Oct. 15, 1844; and Maggie, born Feb. 12, 1847. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay were Presbyterians, were among the founders of the Presbyterian church at Woodstock—also assisted in erecting the first church edifice there. His sons, Archibald and Thomas, were soldiers during the Civil War, the former being a private in Company B, Seventy-first Illinois, a 100-day regiment mustered in in October, 1862. Thomas (2) was accidentally killed while blasting a log April 1, 1856.

Thomas Lindsay (3), the second son of the family just mentioned, was one and one-half years old at the time of the emigration of the family to New York, and about four years old at the date of their arrival in McHenry County. Reared among the pioneer settlers of that region, he received the education afforded by the common schools of that locality, meanwhile being inducted into the industrial life of a farmer on the home farm. In 1864 he enlisted as a private in Company F, Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, served out his time and was honorably discharged at Mobile in November, 1865. He was constantly in active service during the period of his enlistment, but never in hospital either on account of wounds or sickness. After the war he returned to the home farm where he con-

tinued to reside. Here his mother (Mrs Marion Lindsay, who was a devout Presbyterian) died March 9, 1881.

On Feb. 19, 1884, Mr. Lindsay was married to Margaret Pope, born at Oak Park, Cook County, in 1858, the daughter of Frederick and Agnes (Limberger) Pope. Mr. Pope was born at Mintz, Germany, in January, 1831, the son of Frederick Pope, a German farmer, who died in his native country. His children were William, Joseph, Louisa, and Frederick, Jr. The latter was a farmer who was married in his native city, in 1851, to Agnes Limberger, coming immediately to the United States and to Oak Park, where he engaged in farm work and finally established for himself and family a substantial home. His children were Eve, Margaret, Anna, Fredrick, Gertrude, and Charles. Mrs. Pope died Dec. 25, 1888. Both she and her husband were members of the German Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Pope was a Republican in politics, and an industrious and thrifty citizen.

Having purchased the interest of the other heirs to his father's estate, Mr. Lindsay continued to reside upon the home place after his marriage to Miss Pope, by his thrift and industry adding to his holdings until he was the proprietor of 200 acres, upon which he erected a substantial two-story frame dwelling. In March, 1893, he removed to Woodstock, where he purchased a pleasant residence in which he continued to reside up to the date of his death, Oct. 21, 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay were members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he was a liberal supporter and an elder for many years. He was also one of the builders of the present Presbyterian church edifice at Woodstock. His public spirit was manifested in behalf of good roads and good schools, and was recognized by his election to the School Board in his Township, while his high personal integrity won for him general confidence in the community. Mrs. Lindsay still survives.

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#### CHARLES A. LEMMERS.

Mr. Charles A. Lemmers, editor of "The Woodstock Sentinel," is a native of McHenry County and the son of one of the pioneer settlers. The Lemmers family is of Holland-Dutch

ancestry, Cornelius F. Lemmers, the father of Charles A., having been born near The Hague in 1812. His father, Francis Lemmers, was a ship-builder and died in Holland. Cornelius F. received an excellent education, learned the ship-carpenter's trade and, in 1847, emigrated to New York on board a sailing vessel, the voyage occupying between three and four months. From New York he came direct to Milwaukee, Wis., by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes, arriving at the Wisconsin city with only fifty cents in his pocket. Here he found employment in carpenter work until 1848, when he removed to Woodstock, McHenry County, Ill., where he continued to work at his trade and finally engaged in contracting and house-building. In 1850 he was married, in McHenry County, by the Rev. Joel Wheler, to Lois Delina Wheeler, born in Cortland County, N. Y., the daughter of Merrick and Catherine (Jones) Wheeler. Merrick Wheeler was a member of an old colonial family and a native of New York, who married in that State and adopted the life of a farmer. His children were: Almina, Lois D., Sarah, Mary, Adolphus and Francis. In 1845 Mr. Wheeler moved with his family to McHenry County, Ill., and, having purchased 100 acres of land in what is now Dorr Township, became a substantial farmer and citizen, but died in middle life. In politics he was an old line Whig. His son Francis served through the Civil War in an Illinois regiment, and took part in a number of important battles.

After marriage Cornelius F. Lemmers settled in Woodstock and erected a house with his own hands on Tryon Street, where he reared his excellent family and spent the remainder of his life. Mrs. Lemmers is a member of the Baptist church while her husband was reared a Catholic, but did not adhere to that faith after coming to America. Their children were Elizabeth L., Genevieve H., Almina M., Francis M., Charles A., Catherine M., Sadie L., George W. and Guy C. Mr. Lemmers was a skillful mechanic and acquired considerable reputation as the builder of fine stair-cases. A monument to his skill as a designer and builder is the spring-house in the public park at Woodstock, all of which was worked out by his hand. He had a natural aptitude for mathematics, had been educated in the Latin classics,

and was able to speak in French, German and English, besides his native tongue.

Charles A. Lemmers, whose name heads this article, was born at Woodstock, Illinois, May 21, 1864, received his education in the public schools and, at the age of fifteen years, entered the office of "The New Era" at Woodstock, to learn the printer's trade. Here he remained fifteen months, when (in 1880) he went to Lake Geneva and was employed in the office of "The Herald" in that place for two years. In 1882 he became connected with "The Wisconsin Times," the organ of the Wisconsin Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Delavan, Wis., of which he was the editor and foreman, and had nine deaf mutes under his instruction in the art of printing. This compelled him to learn the sign-language in order to communicate with the pupils. In July, 1883, he returned to Woodstock and assumed the local editorship of "The McHenry County Democrat," remaining there until Dec. 30, 1890, when he became editor and foreman of "The Woodstock Sentinel." On Oct. 13, 1902, the plant and subscription list of the "McHenry County Democrat" having been purchased by the Republican Company, the two papers were united, Mr. Lemmers becoming part owner, editor and manager of the consolidated concern under the name of the "McHenry County Republican." In politics he is a staunch Republican. From 1889 to 1893 he filled the office of City Clerk of Woodstock, and also served for a time as one of the Directors of the Public Library of that city, assisting in its reorganization. October 6, 1886, he was married, at Lake Geneva, to Alice M. Marlott, a native of that place, born July 4, 1861, the daughter of John D. and Mary Ann (Johnson) Marlott. Mr. Marlott was a native of New York State and of French descent; received a common-school education in his native State, married there and came to Wisconsin, along in the '50s, locating at Lake Geneva. The children of the Marlott family were: George D., Evaline, Emma, Cora A., Alice M., Harvey and Ida M., all now deceased except George D. and Alice M. Mr. Marlott was an industrious and reliable citizen, and died in 1896 aged sixty-six years.

Mr. Charles A. Lemmers is a member of the Modern Woodmen, of Progress Camp, No. 229,





Mr. M. Lake



Mrs. M. Lake





Woodstock, of which he has been Clerk sixteen years; also of Guardian Lodge, No. 60, I. O. O. F., having passed all the chairs of the Order, including that of Noble Grand, and having represented his local lodge in the Grand Lodge four years. He is also a member of Sherman Encampment N. 56, I. O. O. F., and of Woodstock Rebekah Lodge, No. 205, of the same order. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and was Superintendent of the Sunday School for a number of years. By his ability as an editor and business man, he has not only secured the success of "The Sentinel" under his management, by extending its subscription list and increasing its influence among the intelligent citizens of McHenry County, but has won a deservedly high position for himself in the community. Mr. and Mrs. Lemmers are the parents of three children—Vinita Lois, George Charles, and Luella Eudora; the son, George, having died in 1893.

#### M. W. LAKE.

M. W. Lake, prominent politician, former Mayor of Harvard, and the present Sheriff of McHenry County, was born in Montgomery County, N. Y., Dec. 14, 1843, the son of Levi and Lydia (Winney) Lake. Mr. Lake received his primary education in the common schools, and later attended an academy at Ames, N. Y. In April, 1867, when about twenty-four years of age, he came to Illinois with his parents, and for two years was engaged in the lumber business with his father at Harvard. In November, 1868, he was married to Maggie Lewis, daughter of Morgan and Catherine (Seeber) Lewis, who was born in the State of New York, June 15, 1847, and to them one daughter has been born—Genevieve—who is a successful teacher in the public schools at Harvard.

After marriage Mr. Lake was engaged in the livery business at Harvard, where for twenty years he was much of the time the only liveryman in the village. In political belief he has always been a stanch Republican, and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln when elected to the Presidency for the second term. Mr. Lake is a public-spirited man, and has always taken an active interest in politics, and has favorably supported every public measure designed to benefit his community. During the

'80s he was elected member of the village Board of Trustees, Harvard, Ill., and at the expiration of a four-year term was re-elected, being President of the Board during his second term of service. At the end of eight years of efficient service on the Village Board he was elected Mayor of Harvard, and during his administration of two years, made several important improvements in the streets, built a fire engine house and installed a system of water-works, and his administration was especially noted for good order and an able management of public affairs. All through Mr. Lake's official career he continued to conduct his livery business. In 1892 he was appointed Deputy Sheriff under George Eckert and, in 1898, under Henry Keys, and in the same year was elected to the office of Sheriff by a large majority, and is the present incumbent, having served continuously as Deputy Sheriff and Sheriff since 1892.

Mr. Lake is a member of the Masonic Order, and stands deservedly high in Harvard and McHenry County for his straight-forward principles and honest character.

#### THE McCONNELL FAMILY.

The founders of the American branch of the McConnell family were of Scotch ancestry and settled at an early day in Pennsylvania, where they were among the first settlers of Lancaster County. John McConnell married Agnes Scott, a resident and native of Lancaster County, Penn., and they moved to Lycoming County, settling at Williamsport in the early days of the settlement of that town. Their children were: John, who settled near Jackson, Mich.; Thomas, who lived and died in Lycoming County, Penn., (the old stone residence in which he lived is still standing, and is over one hundred years old); James, who settled in Toledo, Ohio, where he died, leaving no living descendants; and William Alexander, who was born at Williamsport, Penn., March 20, 1810. William Alexander was a farmer and married in Pennsylvania, Jan. 18, 1838, Elizabeth Bodine, who was born in Muncie, Lycoming County, Penn., Nov. 30, 1811, daughter of Abraham and Mercy Bodine.

Abraham Bodine was of French Huguenot ancestry and was born at Readington, N. J., Sept. 19, 1779, the name formerly being writ-

ten BoDine. They fled from France on account of religious persecution and settled at an early date in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Abraham Bodine (Mary Paxon) belonged to a Quaker family, and was expelled from the church because she married an outsider.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER McCONNELL received a good common-school education, and by individual study, added to his fund of knowledge until he became a well-read and well-informed man. He left Hughesville, Penn., in September, 1836, passed the winter in Jackson, Mich., and on May 10, 1837, arrived at Richmond, Ill., and, the first night after his arrival, slept under an oak tree which now stands a little east of the present McConnell residence. Here he made his claim and returned to Pennsylvania, where he married in 1838, and with his young wife left Pennsylvania, Feb. 6, 1838, for Richmond, Ill., where he arrived March 6, 1838. They made the first part of the journey with a sleigh, but the snow having melted away before they completed the trip, the remainder was made with a wagon. Mr. McConnell built a log house, a very comfortable structure of its kind, and improved his homestead in various other ways. The family lived in the log house for many years, and then he built the present residence, which is a substantial structure. Mr. McConnell prospered, accumulated a handsome property, and was a much respected pioneer citizen. He was one of the first Associate Judges of the county, a member of the Board of Equalization, and the first Postmaster and School Director of Richmond, keeping the postoffice in the old log house before the village of Richmond was founded. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, where he was a class leader, Sunday School Superintendent and assisted to organize the church in Richmond. In politics he was originally a Democrat, but in the days of Lincoln became a Republican. Mr. McConnell died at his residence Oct. 9, 1887, and his wife died at the same place April 17, 1888. Mr. McConnell was one of the founders of the town of Richmond, was active in every good enterprise, and was among the most prominent and highly respected pioneers of McHenry County. He and his wife were the parents of children named Abraham Bodine, John and George.

ABRAHAM BODINE McCONNELL, son of William Alexander McConnell, was born in the

old log house in Richmond, Ill., Feb. 3, 1839. He received the education afforded in the pioneer schools and was raised a farmer. At Richmond, Feb. 28, 1861, he married Harriet Susan Potter, born at Ft. Ann, Washington County, N. Y., July 12, 1837, daughter of Stephen Porter and Charity (Barker) Potter.

Stephen P. Potter was of New England ancestry, and the early members of the family were among the English Puritan immigrants who came to New England as early as 1630-40.

David Allen Potter, grandfather of Mrs. A. B. McConnell, was born in New York State and married Polly Barker, daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. He was a deacon in the Baptist church and a pioneer farmer at Ft. Ann, N. Y., and lived on his farm until his death at the age of over eighty years. His children were: James, Elizabeth, Stephen P., Mary, Benjamin, Asenath (who died young), David A. and Fannie A.

Stephen Porter Potter was born at Ft. Ann, in October, 1803. He was a carpenter and joiner by trade and married at Ft. Ann, to Charity Barker, born at Ft. Ann, Washington County, N. Y., March 12, 1809, daughter of James and Susan (Scripture) Barker. James Barker was a farmer and a well educated man for his time, following the profession of a school teacher for some time. He was the son of a Revolutionary soldier and passed all his days at Ft. Ann. His children were Sallie, Charity, Porter and Harriet. He lived to be over eighty years of age and died at Ft. Ann. Stephen P. Potter lived at Ft. Ann for many years and in 1855 came to Richmond, Ill., where he followed his trade. He lived to be seventy-three years of age and died at Richmond, May 7, 1876. Politically he was a Republican and served as Assessor and Collector for several years. His children were: Edwin M., David A., Harriet S. and Periam S. (who died at the age of eight years.)

Abraham B. McConnell, after marriage, settled one and a half miles southeast of Woodstock on 350 acres of land belonging to his father, and which was afterwards given to him. At the time he first settled here there were very good improvements, but Mr. McConnell greatly improved this land and converted it into a fine farm, which is still in the possession of the McConnell family. Politically Mr. McConnell was a Republican and held several





W. A. McConnell





*Elizabeth McConnell*







*A B McCord*







*Mrs. A. B. May<sup>e</sup> Cornell,*



township offices. In religious belief he was a Methodist. In 1894 he removed with his family to Woodstock, where he built a large and attractive residence in modern style of architecture, and here he died Feb. 15, 1895. His children were: Elizabeth (deceased), Lena H. (deceased), Ida L., William Stephen, Fred Bodine and Roy George (deceased). Of these children William Stephen was born Aug. 1, 1870, and received a collegiate education, having graduated from the Law Department of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1894. He married in Woodstock June 15, 1897, Susan Mabel St. Clair, born Sept. 12, 1874, daughter of Israel C. St. Clair, a pioneer of McHenry County. They are the parents of Harold, born July 21, 1898, and Margaret, born July 13, 1900. Fred Bodine was born on the old homestead Aug. 9, 1874, received a liberal education and settled on the McConnell homestead in Dorr Township. He was married Jan. 20, 1897, to Rosemond Barden, daughter of John and Bessie Barden, and they are the parents of Bessie, born Feb. 5, 1898, and Abraham Bodine, born March 24, 1901. Ida Lillian was born Dec. 25, 1868, and received a good education and married Sept. 13, 1893, Arthur E. Southworth, who was born in Algonquin Township, Feb. 11, 1867, son of Gardner S. and Sarah (Miller) Southworth. He is a member of the firm of Monroe & Southworth, printers, of Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Southworth have one child, Arthur Bodine, born March 4, 1896.

Mrs. McConnell resides on the homestead in Woodstock and is a lady of high social standing and greatly beloved by her family and friends. She received an excellent education, having been a student at Ft. Ann, N. Y., and at Mt. Morris Seminary, Ogle County, Ill., and was engaged as a teacher for several years in Richmond, Ill. She possesses a natural talent for and love of history, and to her investigations we are indebted chiefly for the genealogy and facts of the McConnell family history.

#### JOHN MCCONNELL.

John McConnell (deceased) was a native of Richmond, and a son of one of the honored pioneers of McHenry County, a man of exemplary character and prominently identified with the establishment of the private bank of McConnell Brothers & Haythorn, of Richmond.

He was born in the old log house on the McConnell homestead, July 8, 1842. After receiving a good education for his day in the public school and at Mt. Morris Collegiate Institute, he engaged in farming on the home farm and became one of the leading and most progressive farmers of McHenry County. November 5, 1868, he married Mary Frothingham, who was born in Lebanon, N. H., June 2, 1842, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Gale) Frothingham.

Samuel Frothingham, the father, was born in Haverhill, Mass., Dec. 9, 1807, received the usual common school education of the New England States, and married in New Hampshire Mary Gale, daughter of John and Abigail (Smith) Gale, the latter a direct descendant of Major Jacob Gale, who was at the surrender of Burgoyne. Samuel Frothingham settled in New Hampshire while engaged as a stage-driver on the old line of stage-coaches between Lebanon and Boston, in the early days when traveling by the stage-coach was the only means of public conveyance. Later he moved to Franklin, N. H., where he lived for nine years and then removed to McHenry County, Ill., in 1856, settling on a farm of 200 acres two and a half miles west of Richmond. He improved his farm and there passed the remainder of his days. Mr. and Mrs. Frothingham were the parents of three children, Martha and Mary (twins), and Charles. Mr. Frothingham died May 10, 1881, and Mrs. Frothingham, Dec. 14, 1891. Mr. Frothingham was an old line Whig in politics, but later adopted the principles of the Republican party.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. John McConnell settled on the old McConnell homestead, where Mr. McConnell engaged in farming and also conducted a creamery. Mr. McConnell's father was one of the first to establish a creamery in Richmond Township, and John bought the factory of his father and conducted it for about fifteen years. It was largely through Mr. McConnell's influence that, in September, 1890, the Bank of Richmond was organized, and of this institution he served as Vice-President and was also a Director of the State Bank at Woodstock, besides being prominently connected with several other business enterprises.

April 24, 1864, Mr. McConnell started on an overland trip to California, arriving at Sacra-



mento City on the 20th of the following September. He engaged in the lumber business at Chico for a considerable time, and was also with Colonel Biddle, a famous ranch owner, who later became a candidate for President of the United States on the Prohibition ticket. Mr. McConnell remained in Central California about four years, and then returned home by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York.

Mr. and Mrs. McConnell were the parents of the following named children: Bertha L., who married Charles A. Mather of LaGrange, Ill., and they have one son, Lyman McConnell; Charles DeWitt, who graduated from Beloit College in 1898 and, for some time, represented his father's interests in the McConnell Bank. He was married Nov. 15, 1901, to Caroline Fisher Ward, and they resided on the old McConnell homestead at Richmond. With the prospects of a most promising business career before him, he died Sept. 3, 1903.

January 14, 1871, Mr. McConnell united with Richmond Lodge, No. 143, A. F. & A. M., and for several years he was honored as Junior Warden. His parents were members of the first class of the Richmond Methodist Episcopal church organized in 1838, and on Oct. 7, 1877, Mr. McConnell and wife, and his brother George and wife were admitted to full membership in the same church. His name appears on the church records in the list of officers in 1885, and he was either trustee or steward for fifteen years, at times holding both offices, and was always recognized as a man for official position. At the time of his death he was Treasurer of the church and as such proved to be a faithful officer. He was always anxious for the progress of his church, and gave liberally and cheerfully for its advancement. Mr. McConnell died Jan. 1, 1900.

Mr. McConnell was always a public-spirited man and prominently identified with all public enterprises that would prove to be a benefit to the people of Richmond or McHenry County, and his best epitaph is the reputation he left in the minds and hearts of his fellow-citizens as a man of honest methods and firm fidelity to his friends.

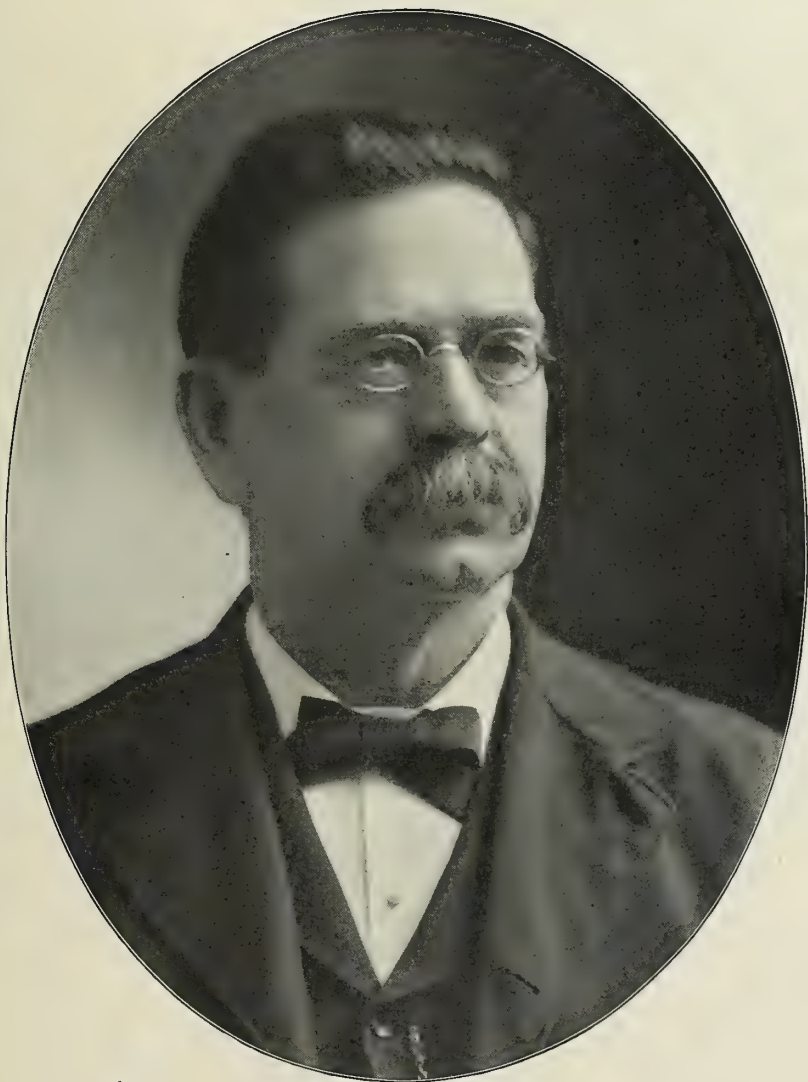
Mrs. McConnell still resides on the old homestead. She is an estimable lady, a member of the Methodist church of Richmond, and ready at all times to assist the church with her means.

#### GEORGE M'CONNELL.

A representative citizen and leading banker and business man of McHenry County is Mr. George McConnell, whose name heads this sketch. Mr. McConnell, the son of William A. McConnell, a pioneer of Richmond Township, McHenry County, was born in his father's old log-house west of the village of Richmond, March 3, 1845, and after receiving the usual education afforded by the public schools of that locality and period, attended the Mount Morris College for one year. Then, having taught school in Burton Township for a time, he engaged in farming on the old homestead farm. November 15, 1865, he was married in Richmond Township to Susan Cushman, who was a native of Vermont, born May 26, 1847, the daughter of Darius and Mary Cushman. Having received from his father a farm of 220 acres, Mr. McConnell cultivated and improved this industriously, adding to it until he became the owner of 520 acres, upon which he erected good farm buildings and made other improvements, making of it one of the most valuable farms in his section of the county.

A business enterprise with which the McConnell family has been prominently identified was the McConnell Cheese Factory, which was erected by William A. McConnell, in the spring of 1866, George McConnell hauling the lumber used in the construction of the building from Hebron and Genoa. This was the first cheese factory established in the northern part of McHenry County, the Stewart Factory of Hebron being erected a few weeks later. It consisted of a two-story building, 30 x 112 feet, with an addition. The factory was under the management of Dr. R. R. Stone, and here the first cheese was manufactured, May 18, 1866. In 1867 the McConnell Factory made 19,000 pounds more cheese than any other factory in the county. During six months of that year it used 1,830,424 pounds of milk, and manufactured, within the same time, a total of 184,471 pounds of cheese.

On September 1, 1890, Mr. George McConnell, in partnership with his brother John, organized the private bank at Richmond now known as the "McConnell Brothers & Haythorn Bank," of which George McConnell is President; J. W. Haythorn, Vice-President; Frank B. McConnell, Cashier, and Charles D. McConnell (now deceased), was Assistant Cashier. Mr.



*Geo. M. Connell*







*Mrs Lewis McConnell*





John M. Cornell







Mary A. McConnell





McConnell is an active business man and public-spirited citizen of Richmond, has served his township as Supervisor and Justice of the Peace many years, and has also been a member of the School Board and of the Town Council, being President of the latter for four years.

Fraternally Mr. McConnell is a member of the Masonic Order and has been Treasurer of his lodge for many years. He and his wife united with the Methodist church at Richmond at the same date with his brother John and wife, Oct. 7, 1877. A careful business man and banker of undoubted integrity, he is also a sincere and active member of his church, in which he has held the office of steward and has served as Treasurer since the death of his father. He has been especially active in raising funds for the projected new church edifice in Richmond, in conjunction with the estate of his brother John, contributing one-half the contemplated cost therefor.

Mr. and Mrs. George McConnell are the parents of the following named children, born in Richmond: Cora H., born Nov. 15, 1866; Mary May, born June 12, 1869; Agnes Leona, born Jan. 24, 1873, died Sept. 25, 1874; Frank Bodine, born March 29, 1875; Harry J., born July 16, 1879, died Dec. 26, 1889; William A., born July 25, 1881. Mr. McConnell is one of those men who have achieved success by well-directed personal effort, careful management and honest industry, furnishing an example worthy of the emulation of others who hope to win in the battle of life.

Mrs. George McConnell (nee Susan Cushman) was born in Danby, Rutland County, Vt., May 26, 1847, the daughter of Darius Fuller and Mary (Harkins) Cushman. Her father was born May 15, 1817, and descended from Puritan and New England ancestry. He was a farmer by occupation and, coming to Illinois about 1854-5, settled in Richmond, McHenry County, and a short time thereafter on a farm in Richmond Township, and still later in Greenwood Township. He enlisted as a private in Captain Tryon's Company, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving until disabled by illness, he was compelled to enter a hospital, finally returning to his home in Greenwood Township. After spending some time in Northern Wisconsin he bought land near Woodstock, but in 1876 went to Minnesota, where he took up a soldier's homestead

claim on Government land and opened up a farm of 160 acres. Mr. Cushman was married in Vermont, on Feb. 19, 1836, to Mary Harkins, who was born in Vermont, August 4, 1817. Mr. and Mrs. Cushman were parents of the following named children: Myron, born Dec. 16, 1838; Levi H., born Oct. 27, 1839; Judy Ann, born August 16, 1842; Mary E., born July 26, 1843; John F., born April 21, 1845; Susan H., born May 26, 1847; Noah, born April 30, 1849; Amos, born Sept. 15, 1852; Ruth, born Nov. 12, 1855; Rosa, born Feb. 28, 1858—all born in Vermont except the last, who was born in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Cushman were members of the Methodist church and, in politics, Mr. Cushman is a Republican. He still survives at the advanced age of eighty-six years, a resident of Montevideo, Minn.

#### ANDERSON REID MURPHEY.

Anderson R. Murphey is a son of James G. Murphey, who was one of the sons of Patrick and Nancy (James) Murphey, the founders of this family in America.

James G. Murphey was born in Braxton County, W. Va., Aug. 15, 1800, received a limited common-school education in a log-cabin schoolhouse, and like his father, became a hunter and farmer. When he was a young man it was the custom of the country to build flat-boats, load them with split-oak staves and freight them down the Kanawha River to Charleston, a distance of eighty miles. Arriving here they would sell the staves and flat-boats, purchase supplies of groceries, ammunition and other necessities of pioneer life, load a canoe and row back up the river, which was a very irksome task. In his younger days Mr. Murphey engaged in this adventurous business. These hardy pioneers were men of iron and could endure an amount of hardship from which their sons would shrink. At this day they no doubt would be regarded as rough and unsophisticated, but they were natural men, living on simple food and knowing but little of the use of drugs, except some of the simple forest remedies which the experience of their forefathers had taught them were useful, or a little whisky made at a neighboring still. They were exposed to all kinds of hardships and their toughened bodies could stand an amount of exposure unknown to modern men.

They were seldom or never sick, lived long and enjoyed nature's pleasures. that never cloy. They were descended from a race who had lived next to nature's heart for generations. They were early converts to religion, and, like the ancient Spartans, virtuous and honest. Hospitality abounded and the few travelers in the wilderness were always made welcome at the fireside, and, to use a familiar expression, "The latch-string was always out."

James G. Murphey married in Braxton County, Feb. 11, 1819, Nancy Given, born in the same county, Sept. 17, 1798. Mr. Murphey cleared up a farm in Braxton County and lived on it for about twenty-five years, and here in the log-cabin home in the wilderness all his children—nine stalwart sons and two daughters—were born. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. James G. Murphey were named William G., Henry C., Perry W., Theodore D., Daniel L., Jane, Ann, Samuel N., Franklin S., Anderson R. and Glorena S. Seemingly not content with this goodly number, the kind-hearted pioneer and his wife adopted another daughter, Clara Anderson, thus completing the family circle to an even dozen. In 1845 Mr. Murphey moved with his family to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey by flat-boat to Charleston, where they took a steamboat to Alton, Ill., and thence to La Salle, Ill., from whence they journeyed with an ox-team to McHenry County, where Mr. Murphey settled on a farm of 160 acres on the edge of Queen Ann Prairie, about two miles east of Woodstock. This farm was partly improved, had a log-cabin standing on it, and here for years the family lived in prosperous contentment and became one of the best-known pioneer families of McHenry County. Possessed of much natural intelligence, Mr. Murphey encouraged his children to obtain as good an education as the schools of those days afforded. Eight of Mr. Murphey's sons were over six feet in height, two of them being six feet six inches, while the shortest son of the family was five feet ten inches, but was the strongest of the brothers. They were all intelligent boys and attended the higher schools in the vicinity, some of them at Mount Morris and the academy at Greenwood—schools famous in pioneer days. Three of the sons—Judge Theodore D., Samuel N. and Frank S.—became prominent lawyers. Judge Theodore

D. was for years a well-known and able jurist of McHenry County, and organized the first Appellate Court in Illinois. Another son, Perry W. Murphey, was long a prominent citizen and an early dentist of Woodstock.

In 1867 James G. Murphey sold his farm and retired from active life, removing to Abingdon, Knox County, Ill., where, in 1879, he died at the age of eighty years, Mrs. Murphey dying at the same age. In his younger days in West Virginia, Mr. Murphey became a convert to the Methodist faith under the good old regime of the pioneer itinerant Methodist circuit-rider, and thereafter was always a follower of the teachings of John Wesley. He was an exhorter in West Virginia and a class-leader there as well as in McHenry County, where he was one of the early Methodists and a prominent pillar in the church—his home always being the home of the circuit-rider in those early days. Like his father and brothers, Mr. Murphey was a firm believer in the old-time principles of Democracy according to the teachings of Thomas Jefferson. He was a War Democrat, and voted for Stephen A. Douglas and the great advocate of the rights of man and the common people, Abraham Lincoln.

Anderson Reid Murphey, the immediate subject of this article, was born on his father's farm in Braxton County, W. Va., April 11, 1840, and, when five years of age, came with his parents to McHenry County. Though young, the incidents of the journey were impressed upon his mind. He attended the district school, and amid the happy surroundings of a large pioneer family, was brought up to a natural, healthful life in the old log-house on the farm. His brothers were of all sizes, from boys to married men, and he was one of the younger members of the family. He attended the first select school in Woodstock, which was kept by David Richardson, was then a student at an academy at Lawrence, Ill., and afterwards at Todd's Seminary for three years. He taught school in his home district one winter and another winter near Cary Station, and also one at Ridgefield, where he is spoken of by some of his pupils as teaching a model school. He then read law with his brother, Judge Murphey, of Woodstock, for one year, and was in the Woodstock postoffice one year with A. E. Smith, P. M., at the time of the Civil War. In 1868 Mr. Murphey entered Dr.





*Mrs Sarah A Morris*



*Edwin R Morris*





Richardson's drug-store as a clerk, and two years later bought a one-half interest; afterwards L. T. Hoy purchased Dr. Richardson's share and the new firm became Murphey & Hoy. In 1882 Mr. Murphey sold his interest to Mr. Hoy and immediately bought a two-thirds interest in John Wheat's drug-store, finally becoming the owner of the entire establishment, where, for the past fifteen years, he has conducted a successful business alone, and carries a large stock of drugs and jewelry. He is well known in McHenry County, and as a proprietor has been engaged in the drug business for a longer period than any other druggist in Woodstock. At Silver Lake, McHenry County, Feb. 14, 1867, Mr. Murphey was married to Emma Thomas, born in McHenry County, the daughter of Elias and Hester (Snow) Thomas, pioneers of Algonquin Township. She was of English-Puritan ancestry, which could be traced to Plymouth Rock, and in one line to John and Priscilla Alden. To Mr. and Mrs. Murphey were born the following children: Lura B., Walter H., Gracie, Elmer R., Cora B. and Clara J. (twins).

Mrs. Murphey died Nov. 25, 1880, and Mr. Murphey was married a second time, in Woodstock, May 26, 1884, this time to Julia Parrish, born in Hebron, Washington County, N. Y., daughter of Daniel and Louise (Collins) Parrish. Daniel Parrish was the son of John Parrish, a patriot soldier of the Revolutionary War, and the family are of English ancestry and were among the early settlers of old colonial Massachusetts. The Collinses are of an English-Puritan family from Connecticut. Mrs. Murphey was educated at the Brattleboro Seminary, Vt., and at the Greenville Ladies' Seminary, and is a member of the Disciple church. Politically Mr. Murphey is a man of broad views and a supporter of the principles of Abraham Lincoln. Fraternally he is a member of Woodstock Commandery, Knights Templar, in which he holds the office of Eminent Commander.

The strong blood of the Celt has held its own in the Murphey family. Mr. Murphey has some of the prominent race characteristics, but the long residence of the family in America, with numerous intermarriages, has entirely Americanized these children of the Gael. In manner Mr. Murphey has the suave, easy address of the Celt, and his genial, whole-souled mirth-

fulness springs from no other source. He is one of those men whom everybody likes. No man in McHenry County has more friends, and his character as a man of kindly heart, strong sympathies and of sturdy honesty, is known to all.

Walter H. Murphey, one of the sons of Anderson R., was educated at the Woodstock High School. He is a self-made man, having left home at seventeen years of age to prepare himself as an electrician. When he was nineteen years of age, he took charge of the electrical plant at Coronado Beach Hotel, Cal., and managed for an English syndicate the construction of 500 miles of telegraph in Old Mexico. He was afterwards with F. G. Logan, of the Chicago Board of Trade, one of the largest owners of telegraph lines in the country. He married in California, and now resides in Seattle, Wash., being connected with a Board of Trade firm.

Elmer R. Murphey, another son, was educated at the Woodstock High School. He is married and resides in Chicago, where he is a member of the firm of J. H. Rhodes & Co., dealers in wholesale drugs, 42 and 44 Michigan Avenue.

The daughter, Jessie, married W. T. Charles, a merchant of Woodstock. Miss C. Bessie Murphey is a young lady at home, who teaches music—piano and violin.

#### EDWIN R. MORRIS.

Among the veterans of the Civil War still surviving in McHenry County, stands the name of Edwin R. Morris, of Marengo, who left his home and a young family in 1862, unselfishly to risk his life for freedom and the integrity of the Union in one of the greatest struggles in all history, and who, having served his country faithfully on many a hard-fought battlefield, returned to resume the life of the private citizen in his old home and at the head of his family. The Morris family is of old Colonial Connecticut and Puritan stock, probably of English origin, and Edwin R. Morris's branch of the family was of the same general stock as that of Robert Morris, of Pennsylvania, the celebrated financier of the Revolutionary period. The New England Morrisses were Revolutionary patriots, and the great-grand-

father of the subject of this sketch was one of those who sacrificed his life on the field at Bunker Hill in 1775.

Samuel Morris, the grandfather of Edwin R. Morris, of McHenry County, was born in Connecticut, and became a pioneer farmer of Cazenovia, N. Y. His children were: Decatur, Jason, Levi, Orrin, Nelson and a daughter who married a Mr. Stannard. The father was a successful farmer and a reliable citizen, and died on his farm aged eighty-five years. Samuel R. Morris, the son of the preceding, was born in Cazenovia, N. Y., March 27, 1804, began life on a farm and married, in Madison County, N. Y., Sally Bowley, who was a native of that State. In 1840 he moved with his family by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes, to Chicago, and settled in Coral Township, McHenry County, where he entered about 500 acres of Government land and opened up an extensive farm, becoming one of the most substantial citizens of his township. He was an old-line Whig and early Republican, and was one of the organizers of the township. He and his wife were members of the Methodist church, of which he was a liberal supporter and, for forty years, a class-leader. He died December 5, 1884, aged seventy-nine years, and his wife—who was born in 1800—died in 1886, aged eighty-six. Their children were: Charlotte M., Sarah E., Martha E., Edwin R., Wilber F., Samuel J. and Charles W. Charles W. lost his life May 24, 1861, while bathing in the Pecatonica River at Freeport, Ill., on the day of his enlistment in the Fifteenth Regiment, Illinois Volunteers, for the Civil War—being, as believed, the first soldier of the war to die in Northern Illinois. Wilber F. enlisted for three years as a private in Company A, Ninety-fifth Illinois, and was wounded in the battle of Guntown, Miss. He carried a musket-ball in his side for twenty-eight years, from the effects of which he finally died at Fredericksburg, Va., where, in the meantime, he had settled.

Edwin R. Morris, of this family and immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Cazenovia, N. Y., Jan. 14, 1833, and at seven years of age was brought by his parents to McHenry County. Here he received the ordinary common-school education and later attended the Elgin Academy for two winters. September 12, 1854, he was married, in Coral Township, McHenry County, to Sarah Ann Eddy, who was

a native of Cazenovia, N. Y., born Feb. 4, 1835, the daughter of Robert and Susan (Pengilly) Eddy. Her parents were both natives of Devonshire, England, who came to America in 1830 and settled in Cazenovia, whence, seven years later, they moved to Coral Township, McHenry County. Robert Eddy entered Government land in Coral Township in 1842, but finally went to La Porte, Ind., where he died. His wife, who was a devout member of the Methodist church, lived to the advanced age of ninety-two years, dying at Marengo, McHenry County, in 1888. Their children were: John, William, Robert, Joseph, Thomas, Henry, Sarah, Mary and Susan. John Eddy, the oldest son of this family, born in Devonshire, England, in 1821, came with his parents and four brothers to the United States when he was nine years of age, and, in 1837, to McHenry County. The first school-house in McHenry County was built on the elder Eddy's land and John helped cut the logs for the same. The first well in Coral Township was dug on the Eddy farm. John Eddy served for a time as one of the early sheriffs of McHenry County; was also Captain of Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, serving three years and taking part in a number of important battles. Returning to his home in Coral Township after the war, he finally became the owner of 340 acres of valuable farming land, but died at Marengo, Sept. 4, 1886, after making a spirited speech before the veterans of his regiment at their reunion. Henry Eddy, the youngest brother of Capt. John Eddy, was also a soldier in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois, serving as a private for one year.

After marriage Edwin R. Morris settled on eighty acres of new prairie land which had been entered by his father. This he improved and was prospering as a farmer—two daughters (Mary R. and Lillie J.) having, in the meantime, been born to him—when President Lincoln having issued his call for 600,000 volunteers for the suppression of the rebellion, on August 9, 1862, he enlisted at Marengo as a private in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteers, under Capt. John Eddy. Having served his full term of enlistment for three years, he was mustered out at Springfield, Aug. 17, 1865, receiving an honorable discharge. His service included the campaign and siege of Vicksburg under Grant; the Red River cam-



paign under Gen. Banks; the disastrous fight at Guntown, Miss.; the battle at Nashville, Tenn., of December, 1864, and the operations which ended with the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely and the fall of Mobile, Ala., during the last days of the war, besides numerous skirmishes and minor engagements. Mr. Morris was not wounded nor a prisoner during his term of service, and spent but little time in hospital on account of sickness, but was absent from duty about three months on account of an affection of the eyes. He became a corporal on his enlistment and, at the time of his muster-out, was Second Sergeant. After the war he returned to his family and the cultivation of his farm, and by industrious, thrifty management, has prospered, adding to his land until he is now the owner of 137 well-improved acres, with good buildings.

In the spring of 1886 Mr. Morris took up his residence in Marengo, where he is a member of Harley Wayne Post, No. 169, G. A. R., in which he has served as Commander for eleven years. He is one of the original Republicans of McHenry County, casting his vote for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln in 1856 and 1860, and has been a loyal supporter of every Republican candidate for President since. For two years he held the office of Road Commissioner, and is a member of the Knights of the Globe, in which he has held the office of Ensign. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Morris are: Mary R., Lillie J., Eddy L. and Alice M.

When Mr. Morris entered the army he left at his home his wife and two daughters, the younger of the latter being but five years old. In the next three years his wife passed many anxious days and nights, but she met her privations with true courage and patriotism. At times she was compelled to do much work upon the farm herself, as hired help was scarce on account of the absence of so large a proportion of the able-bodied men in the army. Dependence was largely necessary, therefore, on old men and half-grown boys. After his enlistment Mr. Morris's daughter Rosa (Mary R.), then a girl of seven years, made for him a "soldier's housewife," which he carried during the war and still preserves as a precious memento of war times. She married J. W. Usborne of Marengo.

#### JOHN S. MEDLAR.

John S. Medlar (deceased), one of the earliest daguerreotype artists and photographers of Woodstock, Ill., was born in Sullivan County, N. Y., Oct. 23, 1831, the son of John and Adelia (Rexford) Medlar. On the paternal side the Medlar family was of Holland-Dutch stock and, on the maternal, English-Puritan, and among the early settlers of New York State. The first resident in America of this name, so far as known, was Zacharias Medlar, born on Staten Island, in 1770, and died in 1856. He was the father of nine children: Samuel, Charles, Peter, Maria, Elizabeth, Sally, Harriet, John and Julia. John Medlar, the father of John S., born in 1797, was a native of Dutchess County, N. Y., while his wife, Adelia Rexford, was born in Hartford, Conn. They were the parents of twelve children of whom eleven were living in 1885, ten of them as follows: Elizabeth, in Sullivan County, N. Y.; Mary A., in Middletown, N. Y.; Louisa, in Brooklyn, N. Y.; John S., in Woodstock, Ill.; Jeanette, in Rockford, Ill.; Effie, in Parkville, N. Y.; James B., in Rockford, Ill.; Charles, in Kansas City, Mo.; William O., in Glenwood, Penn.; George S., in Peakville, N. Y. John S. received a fair common-school education in his native State, worked for a while in a saw-mill belonging to his father, but, being dependent upon his own resources, in early manhood came to Rockford, Ill., where he found employment in the reaper works at that place. He then learned the business of a daguerreotypist, or ambrotype artist, in Rockford, and, in September, 1858, came to Woodstock, and opened a studio in what is known as the Hoy Block, which he conducted for the period of thirty-eight years. He was skillful in his profession and took the portraits of many of the leading pioneers and other notable characters of McHenry County. Among those who sat for their pictures in his studio was the celebrated Col. Ephraim E. Ellsworth, of the Chicago Zouaves, who became the first victim of the War of the Rebellion, being killed at Alexandria, Va., May 24, 1861. The negatives of many of these pictures were preserved in Mr. Medlar's studio, and are now regarded as of great historic value, which will be increased with the lapse of time. Mr. Medlar was married, in Woodstock, June 16, 1862, to Maria Louise Dake, the daughter of

Gilbert and Julia A. (Sheldon) Dake. Mr. Medlar continued to reside in Woodstock after his marriage and, at an early day, was the only artist in his line in McHenry County and for a large extent of country in that section of the State. He was skillful and won a wide reputation. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Medlar were: Frank Wilson, who married Katherine Brooks, and is an artist at Spencer, Iowa, and has a son Winton B.; Frederick B., who died in infancy; Mabelle Claire, married Rev. H. H. Hurley, a Baptist minister at Barry, Ill., and has one daughter, Helen H.; Herbert Benson; Julia Louise, and Adele Bishop. In 1896 Mr. Medlar built the photograph gallery in Woodstock now occupied by H. B. Medlar. Politically Mr. Medlar was a Republican, in religious belief a Baptist, and fraternally a charter member of the Woodstock Commandery Knights Templar, of which, at the date of his death, Sept. 28, 1898, he was the last surviving original member.

Mrs. John S. Medlar (nee Marie L. Dake), was born at Fort Ann, Washington County, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1840, the daughter of Gilbert and Julia A. (Sheldon) Dake, and, at four years of age, was brought by her parents to McHenry County, Ill. She received a common-school education at Greenwood, and at fourteen years old removed with her parents to Woodstock, where she was a pupil in the select school kept by John Parish; later attended the first high school in Woodstock and, at seventeen years of age, entered the Northwestern Female College at Evanston, now a part of the Northwestern University. The names of the graduates from the Female College of that time are now included in the catalogue of Alumnae of the University. Mrs. Medlar was a classmate of the late Frances E. Willard in the class of 1860, of whom she was a close friend and correspondent. Mrs. Medlar received a second degree from her Alma Mater in 1869 as "Laureate of Literature." She is a lady of much literary ability and a frequent contributor to the press, both in the form of poetry and prose fiction. She is also a charter member of the Woodstock W. C. T. U., which was organized personally by Miss Willard, and has filled all the offices in the Union, including that of President. She has been an extensive traveler, visiting many dif-

ferent States, and has been a frequent speaker before W. C. T. U. organizations in this and other States as far west as California.

HERBERT B. MEDLAR, the son of John S. and Maria L. (Dake) Medlar, was born in Woodstock, Oct. 10, 1869, and received his education in the public schools of that place. In his youth he learned the printer's trade in the office of the "Woodstock Sentinel," which he followed for three years. He then spent five years as an employe of the Watch Factory at Rockford, but later was engaged in the manufacturing business about ten years. Then returning to Woodstock, he entered the photograph gallery of his father, and soon established a successful business. Accustomed, as he had been in his youth, to assist his father in the photographic business, he soon acquired a thorough knowledge of the art, and is now recognized as one of the leading photographers of Northern Illinois. Mr. Medlar has true artistic taste and is well posted in reference to later improvements and modern appliances of the art. His work will compare favorably with that of the most advanced photographers in the larger cities. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America and, for eight years, was a member of the Illinois National Guard, holding the position of Sergeant of his company. His regiment was called into service for a short time during the strike of 1892. In politics Mr. Medlar is a Republican and is well and favorably known as a citizen.

GILBERT B. DAKE, the father of Mrs. John S. Medlar, referred to in the preceding sketch, was a pioneer of McHenry County, who came to the county in 1844, settling near the village of Greenwood. Mr. Dake was born in Windsor, Vt., the son of Benjamin F. and Mary Dake. The genealogy of the Dake family in lineal descent is as follows: George Dake, who was born some time during the latter part of the seventeenth century, was of Puritan stock and was the first to come from England to America. His son John was born in America in 1724, and the latter had a son named Benjamin, who was born in 1853, and was a silver-smith by trade. Benjamin F., the son of Benjamin just named, and father of Gilbert B., was born in Vermont, Nov. 18, 1789, died



Jan. 19, 1816. He was a silver-smith, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812, taking part in a number of battles, and the musket which he carried is still preserved as an heirloom in the family. He came to McHenry County some time after his son Gilbert, from whom he bought land in Greenwood Township, and spent there the remainder of his life, dying at the age of about ninety years. He was a member of the Baptist Church, in which he held the office of deacon, and he and his wife were parents of the following named children: Mary, Henry, and Gilbert. Gilbert Dake grew up on a farm and, having received a fair education in select schools, became a teacher. He removed in boyhood with his parents to Washington County, N. Y., and before reaching his twenty-first year, was married at Fort Ann, N. Y., to Julia Ann Sheldon, who was his junior by about a year. Miss Sheldon was born at Sheldon's Point on Lake George, near Ft. Ann, the daughter of Horace and Abigail (Bishop) Sheldon. Her father was a pioneer farmer of Washington County, N. Y., living on the shore of Lake George, and has descendants still living on the home farm. He was a soldier of the War of 1812, and lost his life at middle age by drowning in Lake George. The accident occurred by the capsizing of a boat upon which he was carrying two men across the lake. He had succeeded in getting the men back into the boat, but became exhausted and sank near the shore. He was twice married, the children of his second wife, Abigail (Bishop) Sheldon, being Julia Ann, Tallmadge, Marietta and Viola. After the death of Mr. Sheldon, his second wife married a Mr. Freeman, and they had children named Ira and Carrie.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Dake settled at Fort Ann, where he engaged in the mercantile business, and also kept an old-fashioned inn or "tavern." Here he owned some land. In the spring of 1844, he removed with his family to McHenry County, traveling by packet on the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence by steamer to Southport, Wis., and by wagon to Greenwood Township. Here he bought land of Luther Finch, upon which but little improvement had been made, but finally became the owner of 300 acres, upon which he had a pleasant home and was a prosperous

farmer. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church, in which he held the office of deacon and was one of the principal pillars. In early times his house was the hospitable home of the Baptist ministers. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Dake were parents of children named: Gilbert, who died in infancy; Frank, Celia, Louisa, Mary, and Abbie. Mr. Dake was originally a Democrat and served at one time as Treasurer of McHenry County, but voted for Abraham Lincoln at his second election. In 1854, he moved to Woodstock, and, during the following year, bought the property where the Medlar family now reside. At that time, he was the owner of four lots on the corner where his home was located, and also bought two farms two miles from Woodstock. He built and conducted the Dake & Quinlan mill, the ruins of which are still standing. Mr. Dake was an enterprising business man, and at one time owned the Frame & Slocum Warehouse, and was, for a time, in company with John J. Murphy, in the commission business. Mr. Dake finally removed to Minneapolis, Minn., where he engaged in the mercantile business, dying there about sixty-nine years of age. His wife also died at the same place.

#### DR. CHARLES C. MILLER.

Dr. Charles C. Miller, one of the oldest and best authorities on bee culture in Illinois, if not in the Western States, and for many years a contributor to many of the leading bee journals, was born at Ligonier, Westmoreland County, Penn., June 10, 1831, the son of Dr. Johnson J. and Phebe (Roadman) Miller. His father, Dr. Johnson J. Miller, was born in New Jersey, and, at an early day, removed with his father (Charles Miller) and family to Armstrong County, Penn., where he studied medicine and afterwards practiced for several years at Ligonier, dying at the latter place in 1841. His children were: Elizabeth, Dr. Charles C., Harriet Lemmon, Mrs. Henrietta Davis and Mrs. Emma R. Jones. The Millers are of English descent and came of a colonial New Jersey family of tory proclivities. The Roadmans were of German extraction. Mrs. Johnson J. Miller was born in Westmoreland County, Penn.

Dr. Charles C. Miller received his primary



education in the common schools. Losing his father when ten years of age, he was then thrown upon his own resources, but with a spirit of self-denial occasionally bordering upon hardship, young Miller worked his way through school, first attending Jefferson College in Pennsylvania and then Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., graduating from the latter when twenty-two years of age. Unlike most self-supported college boys, when he completed his course of study he still had left about eighty dollars of his earnings for current expenses. Mr. Miller began the study of medicine with Dr. Sheridan Johnston as preceptor, later attending a course of lectures at Ann Arbor (Michigan) University, which he completed in 1855, when twenty-four years of age. In early youth young Miller had been accustomed to hard manual labor, but as soon as his educational qualifications would permit, he engaged in teaching, his first experience being at Shelsbury and later at Johnstown, Penn. Being possessed of an excellent voice, he also taught vocal music at Johnstown and many other places. After completing his course in medicine, Dr. Miller engaged in practice at Earlville, LaSalle County, Ill., but in July, 1856, came to Marengo, McHenry County, where he practiced his profession for about one year. A long and strenuous effort in acquiring an education had greatly impaired his health, and thus being obliged to abandon his profession, he was engaged at different times as clerk, traveling salesman, and later taught school, being principal of the public schools at Marengo for three years, and then, for a time, a teacher of instrumental music. For several years he was engaged in the office of the Mason & Hamlin Organ Company, and in the preface to "Root's Curriculum for the Pianoforte," a work well known in almost every household where music is studied, Dr. Miller is given credit for "much important aid" to the author in the preparation of this work. He prepared much of the department of this work devoted to fingering, and before the manuscript for the entire volume was given to the printers for the last time, Mr. Root submitted the revised proofs to Dr. Miller for final correction. Dr. Miller's musical compositions are simple and delightful, and several of his songs became very popular. Dr.

George F. Root (an able musical critic) refers to his selections as "characteristic and good." In 1872 Dr. Miller was the official agent of the Cincinnati Musical Festival, conducted by Theodore Thomas, and rendered valuable assistance in organizing and making a success of the undertaking.

In 1861 Dr. Miller became interested in bee culture, his wife about that time having captured a run-away swarm of bees in a sugar barrel. He soon began to make a study of bees and their habits, and in 1870 began writing articles on bee-keeping for the "American Bee Journal," and several years later became a regular contributor to this and other periodicals. In 1878 Dr. Miller began to devote his entire attention to bee-keeping, and for many years kept from 200 to 400 colonies in four apiaries, all of which were run for comb-honey. In 1897 the product of Dr. Miller's apiaries amounted to 17,150 pounds. At the present time (1903) he does not keep so many colonies, but still devotes his full time and attention to bee-keeping and contributing articles for different bee journals. The Doctor has made a life study of bees and is enthusiastic in all that pertains to his chosen pursuit. He is the inventor of the "Miller Feeder," the "Miller Tent Escape" and "Miller's Introducing Cage," all of which are extensively used. He found bee-keeping both pleasant and profitable for many years, but for some unknown reason, which has baffled the knowledge, skill and experience of the best informed apiarists, honey-bees have not produced nearly so much honey in recent years as formerly.

In 1857 Dr. Miller was married at Marengo, McHenry County, to Mrs. Helen White, widow of Thomas White, and they were the parents of one son, Charles C., who enlisted in the Regular United States Infantry and served through the Spanish-American War. He is now a clerk in the Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C. Mrs. Miller died in the spring of 1880, and the Doctor married for his second wife Miss Sidney Wilson, daughter of John and Margaret Wilson. (See sketch of John Wilson in this volume). In religious belief he is a Presbyterian, having joined the Presbyterian church at Delhi, N. Y., in 1853, being then twenty-two years of age. He is Chairman of the Presbyterian Committee

on Sunday School work, Chairman of Young People's work, and President of the Second District of the State Sunday School Association. In political opinions he is one of the original Prohibitionists of McHenry County, being at the present time a firm adherent of that party and a strong advocate of the temperance cause. He has always been a friend of education and has served at different times on the Marengo School Board.

#### THE MOSES FAMILY.

This family traces its lineage in direct line of descent from John Moses, who came from England to America and settled in Plymouth Colony between 1630 and 1640. Being a member of the Church of England, he was not in sympathy with the religious views of the Puritans of that period. As early as 1639 he had established a ship-yard at Duxbury, Mass., for the building of boats and small sea-going vessels. He had some capital besides tools for working both iron and wood, and his old anvil, brought with him from England, has been handed down in the family to the present day, and was on exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876.

John Moses, the second of the name and son of the preceding, of Windsor and Simsbury, Conn., was a man of property and prominent in the making of treaties and the transaction of other matters of business with the Indians of that day. He settled at Windsor, Conn., in 1647 and, on May 18, 1653, was married to Mary Brown. Like his father before him, he was a member of the Church of England. He was a man of bold and adventurous spirit and, four years after his marriage, was enrolled under Capt. John Mason of Windsor, the idol of that part of New England at that day. He was for a time, also, captain of a troop of thirty mounted cavalry, and was subject to frequent calls to suppress disturbances and fight Indians, who greatly outnumbered the whites in the vicinity of Windsor. His property at Simsbury was swept away by the burning of that town by the Indians, on March 26, 1676. This occurred on the Sabbath day, when the people were absent from their homes attending church. A band of King Philip's warriors suddenly made their appear-

ance, and rushing through the deserted town, applied the torch as they went to the thatched roofs of the pioneer homes, and forty houses, together with barns and other buildings, were destroyed. Fences, farming utensils, farm produce and provisions were gathered into heaps and burned by the marauders, the destruction being so complete that not a single building was left. John Moses, with his two sons, Thomas and William, were in the "swamp fight" in 1675, against King Philip, who died a year afterwards from the effect of wounds then received. When not engaged in fighting Indians, John Moses was employed in building grist, saw and cider-mills. He died Oct. 14, 1683. His children were: John, born June 15, 1654, died August 31, 1714; William, born Sept. 1, 1656, died Nov. 27, 1681; Thomas, born Jan. 14, 1658, died July 29, 1681; Mary, born May 13, 1661; Sarah, born February 2, 1662; Nathaniel; Dorcas; Margaret, born Dec. 2, 1666; Timothy, born in February, 1670; Martha, born March 8, 1672, died Jan. 30, 1689; Mindwell, born Dec. 13, 1676, died Jan. 6, 1677.

John Moses (3), son of John (2), settled on his father's farm in Simsbury, Conn., near Mt. Philip, and married Debora Thrall, July 14, 1680, and they had children as follows: John, born April 26, 1681; Debora (1), born Oct. 1, 1682, died in 1683; William, born March 25, 1684, died July 14, 1745; Thomas, born May 8, 1685; Joshua, born Oct. 3, 1689, died Feb. 6, 1773; Debora (2), born Jan. 12, 1691; Caleb (1), born Aug. 1, 1694, died Nov. 23, 1697; Othniel, born Jan. 10, 1696, died March 18, 1697; Moses, son of John, baptized Nov. 14, 1697; Caleb (2), born Jan. 4, 1698, died March 21, 1787; Othniel (2), born Sept. 6, 1701, baptized Sept. 7, died Sept. 11, 1701; Mary, born Sept. 1, 1702; Martha, born in 1705.

Caleb Moses, of the fourth generation, the son of John (3), lived at Lundburg to a great age, dying according to the family record March 21, 1787. He was married Sept. 15, 1726, to Hannah Beaman. He was a man of note in the community and, among the family papers, is a commission showing that he held the offices of Constable and Collector by appointment under the British crown. He owned the old home farm of his grandfather on Mt. Philip, to which he had made additions by purchase in the valley. The children of



Caleb and Hannah (Beaman) Moses were born as follows: Caleb, Feb. 18, 1728, died Feb. 18, 1773; Daniel, June 22, 1729, died, Sept. 8, 1776, while serving in the Revolutionary army; Abel, June 24, 1733; Ashbel, Dec. 6, 1735; Michael, Sept. 12, 1737, died March 14, 1797; Lucy, May 9, 1740.

Daniel Moses, the son of Caleb, and belonging to the fifth generation of the family, married Mary Wilcox, who was born in 1732 and died in 1816. She was the daughter of Azariah Wilcox. Daniel removed from the old parish to West Simsbury about the year 1756, and settled on a farm. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and died in New York while in the service, Sept. 8, 1776. His children were: Roger, born Feb. 13, 1767, died 1828; Zebina, born April 15, 1764, died Nov. 23, 1815; Lois; Hannah; Charlotte; Sybil, and Mary.

Zebina Moses, the son of Daniel, and representative of the sixth generation, lived in Simsbury, Conn., and married Theodosia Curtis, daughter of Eliphalet Curtis, who represented Simsbury in the General Assembly of 1780. The wife of Zebina Moses was a woman of rare energy and ability. She died at Marcellus, N. Y., Aug. 29, 1850. Brown, in his history, states that "the families which have borne the name of Curtis were among the most prominent in West Simsbury the latter part of the last century." The children of this family were: Zebina, born Feb. 13, 1786, died Dec. 30, 1843; Linus, born Feb. 18, 1789, died March 24, 1834; Pliny, born April 23, 1791, died Feb. 19, 1792; Curtis, born Dec. 27, 1792, died April 21, 1862; Theodosia, born July 14, 1795, died Sept. 27, 1863; Charlotte, born July 19, 1797, died July 8, 1844; Chester, born Sept. 16, 1800; died May 3, 1870; Horace, born July 3, 1803, died January 3, 1840; Myron, born May 11, 1805, date of death unknown; Pluma, born Nov. 8, 1807, died Jan. 7, 1851; Elvira, born Oct. 18, 1810, died Nov. 27, 1883.

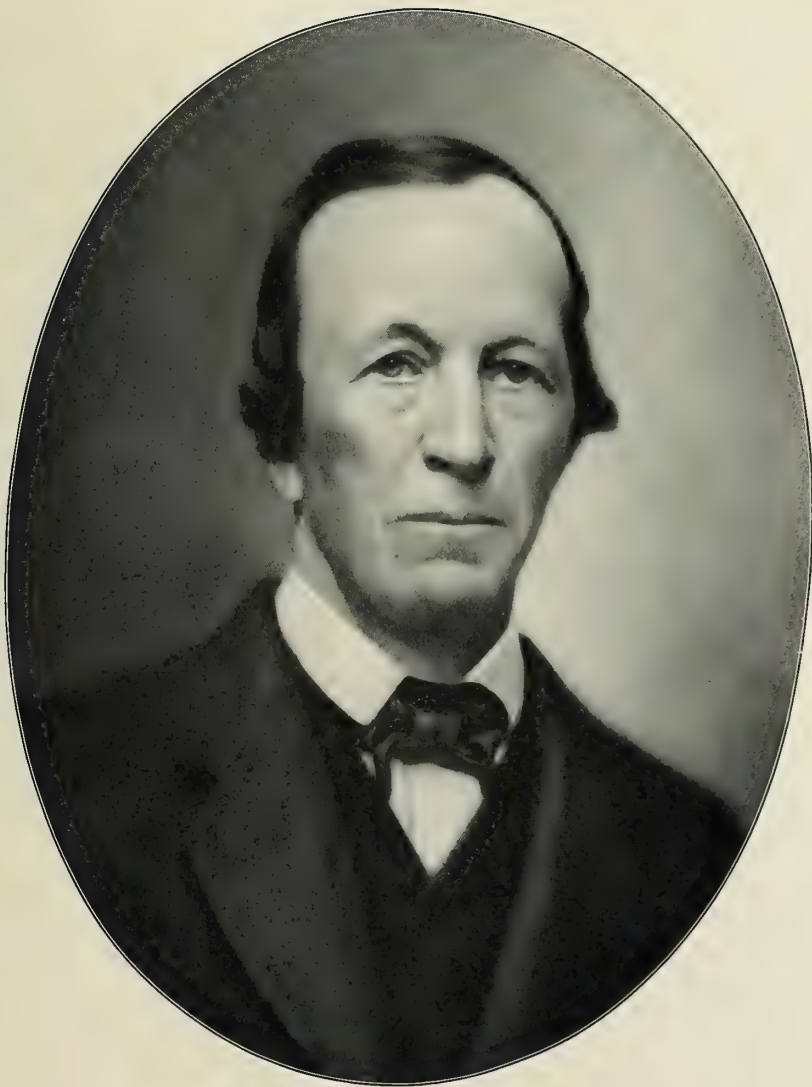
Zebina Moses (2), son of Zebina, and representative of the seventh generation of the American branch of the family, removed from Simsbury, Conn., to Marcellus, N. Y., about 1816. He had been a blacksmith and, in partnership with his uncle, Israel Curtis, established a shop in Marcellus for forging plow-irons. In 1827 he owned 450 acres of farming

lands. His house became the temporary home of his brothers, sisters and other relatives as they came from Connecticut until they could find a satisfactory location. He was noted for his great strength, was a good liver, and, supplied his table generously with early vegetables and game, and had arrangements for obtaining shell-fish from Connecticut. His farming operations required the employment of many men. Cider was the common drink of that period, and the story goes that fifty barrels of this beverage were sometimes consumed annually at his table. He was a gentleman of the old school and dressed in the fashion of the day, in a blue coat with brass buttons, and drove with his family in his carriage to the Episcopal church, of which he was a warden. Fraternally he was identified with the order of Free Masons. He was married in November, 1808, to Jane Grimes, who was born March 22, 1791, the daughter of Capt. Moses Grimes, of Salisbury, Conn. Her mother was a Judson and her grandmother a Clark. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Zebina Moses were: Cynthia, born March 11, 1810, died April 22, 1811; Gad, born in Simsbury, Conn., May 3, 1812, died March 9, 1890; Guy, born in Simsbury, Nov. 18, 1813; Job, born in Simsbury, Aug. 30, 1815, died July 26, 1887; Dan, born in Marcellus, N. Y., March 17, 1819, died Aug. 27, 1889; Amoret, born Sept. 22, 1825; Rebecca Jane, born July 23, 1828; Pluma Elvira, born Dec. 2, 1830.

Gad Moses (deceased), born in Simsbury, Conn., May 3, 1812, the son of Zebina and Jane (Grimes) Moses, removed with his parents while still a child to Marcellus, N. Y., where he received a common New England education and grew up to the life of a farmer. He was twice married; first, on Nov. 26, 1836, to Delana Hovey, who died at Marcellus, N. Y., May 5, 1843. His second marriage occurred May 14, 1844, to Catharine Fury, born in Ireland, Aug. 26, 1822, the daughter of Richard and Margaret (Berry) Fury. Her father came with his family from Ireland to America on account of his health, and died aged about fifty years. His children were: Henry, Richard, John W., Margaret, Jane, Catharine and William. Mr. Fury was a bookkeeper and came of a good family.

After marriage Gad Moses settled at Mar-





*Gad Moses*





*Mrs. Gad Moses*





cellus, N. Y., on a farm given him by his father, who was a man of wealth for that period. His first wife having died, as already stated, he came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1843, and bought land in Greenwood Township, where he finally owned several hundred acres. Mrs. Moses (then Miss Fury) came to McHenry County in 1836 with Bela H. Tryon and family. Dr. W. Hale, who married her sister Margaret, came west with the party, bringing his family with him, and settled nine miles from Milwaukee, where he practiced his profession for many years. He died recently in Iowa at an advanced age. Mrs. Moses resided with the family of Dr. Hale, but made occasional visits to the Tryon family in Hebron Township, and Mr. and Mrs. Tryon called her "Jaughter," while she called them "Uncle Bela" and "Aunt Harriet." She had received a common-school education before coming west. While at church at Hebron during a visit upon the Tryon family, she met Mr. Moses for the first time. He had driven from New York State with his team and carriage, which was the first fine carriage furnished with cushions, in that part of McHenry County. The second time Mrs. Moses rode with her future husband, the horses ran away. After their marriage they settled in Greenwood Township, where they had a fine home near the church. In his younger days Mr. Moses was an Episcopalian—the faith of his forefathers—but later in life, through his association with Mr. Bela Tryon, he became a Universalist. Mrs. Moses attends the Presbyterian church. In politics Mr. Moses was a Republican. He had one son, Grove, who served in the Civil War, a member of Company K, One Hundred Forty-first Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and who died at his home in consequence of exposure during his army life. Late in life Mr. Moses suffered from a long and distressing illness extending over a period of more than five years, during which he was tenderly cared for by his faithful and devoted wife. His decease occurred March 9, 1890. In his younger days Mr. Moses was an energetic and successful business man, and added to the property given to him by his father, in spite of some reverses in later life becoming a wealthy man. He was just and honest in his business transactions, a kind father, an

affectionate and devoted husband, and, as a citizen, had the respect and confidence of the best people in the community in which he had resided over forty years.

By his first marriage, Mr. Moses had two children: Mary A., born in Marcellus, N. Y., Sept. 26, 1837, and Grove, who died in infancy. The children of the second marriage were: Delana, born in Greenwood, Ill., May 15, 1845; Grove (2), born June 21, 1847, became a soldier of the Civil War and died Oct. 24, 1869; William H., born Jan. 1, 1851; Frances A., born Dec. 25, 1853, died March 5, 1855; Jennie Belle, born May 25, 1857, died 1890. Mary A. married at Marengo, Ill., Aug. 29, 1854, Willard D. Paine. Delana married at Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 26, 1863, Charles H. Rathbon. Both are now deceased. Jennie Belle married June 12, 1883, Harry H. Chittenden, but died, as already stated, in 1880. William H. married July 5, 1887, Maude Mason, and is now a successful merchant at Russell, Kans. He has one daughter, Marguerite.

Mrs. Moses is one of the very few pioneers still surviving who came to McHenry County as early as 1836, and she relates many interesting incidents connected with that period and of the kind of life which the scattered families in that section then lived. She remembers some of the Indians who were accustomed to visit that region for some years after the country had been occupied by the whites. She has been an affectionate mother to her children, and was a faithful and devoted wife to her husband. At an advanced age, although enfeebled by impaired health, she retains her mental faculties in a surprising degree to the gratification of a large circle of friends.

#### HENRY W. MEAD.

Henry W. Mead (deceased) was the first settler in Hebron Township, and, assisted by his brother, Cyrus L., platted Hebron Village. Born on a farm in Oswego County, N. Y., May 10, 1823, he was the son of Jeremiah and Anna (Cline) Mead. His educational advantages consisted of several years' attendance at the district school and one term in an academy at Belleville, N. Y. Being raised on a farm, he was early initiated into the routine of

farm-labor, and, while still a youth, engaged to work on a farm for nine dollars a month. In addition to his regular farm-work Mr. Mead milked nine cows every night and morning. In 1844, when about twenty-one years of age, he came west, arriving at Kenosha (then Southport), Wis., Oct. 30, of the same year, whence he came direct to Richmond, McHenry County, having then a capital of \$96 in gold and silver. The following winter he engaged to teach school at Bloomfield, Wis., and the next summer broke prairie land in company with Barney Burdick, using for this purpose seven to nine yoke of oxen. Mr. Mead's first purchase of land was in the fall of 1845, near Sheboygan, Wis., but in 1848 he made a second purchase near Bloomfield, in the same State. In the spring of 1850, after recovering from a severe spell of sickness, he started for California in company with Barney Burdick, Edward Purdy and Charles McConnell, making an overland journey from Richmond with two teams of horses and two wagons. They crossed the Mississippi River at Savannah, passed near DeWitt, Iowa, and on May 10 crossed the Missouri River at Council Bluffs, Iowa, arriving at Fort Larimie, June 6; Salt Lake City, July 4, and at Hangtown (now Placerville), Cal., August 14, where he engaged in placer-mining for eighteen months in company with Mr. Burdick, meeting with good success. On his return to Illinois he walked across the Isthmus from Panama to Gorgona, and then proceeded in a bungalow to Chagres, where he boarded a steamer. He stopped at Acapulco and arrived at Havana, Jan. 1, 1852, remaining there four days, then he proceeded to New Orleans, and up the Mississippi River to Memphis, arriving at his New York home May 6, 1852, where he remained until the following autumn. In 1853, in company with his brother Cyrus L. Mead, he purchased 350 acres of land where the village of Hebron is now located, and, in 1860, had it surveyed and platted into village lots. Mr. M. S. Goodsell erected the first house and store on the surveyed tract. After the completion of the railroad through that section, Mr. Mead built the present depot, and for eighteen years acted as station agent, at the same time attending to his own business as a dealer in general merchandise and lumber, in which he estab-

lished a large trade, for a time his sales averaging \$45,000 annually. In political views Mr. Mead was a staunch Republican. In 1858 he was elected Town Clerk and served continuously in that office until 1881. He also held the office of Justice of the Peace, Town Treasurer, Township Supervisor and Notary Public, serving in each official capacity for many years. He was a charter member of Hebron Lodge No. 604, A. F. & A. M., a member of Woodstock Chapter No. 36 R. A. M., and Calvary Commandery No. 25, K. T. In 1868 Mr. Mead built a factory for the benefit of the dairy farmers in his community and, at one time, this factory produced an average of 1300 pounds of cheese per day.

January 22, 1862, Mr. Mead was married to Ann M. Turner, who was born in Hamburg, Erie County, N. Y., Dec. 7, 1828, and they were the parents of three children—Frank, Minnie, and Emma C.—all of whom, except Emma C., are deceased. Mrs. Mead died August 22, 1884, after a lingering illness, during which she was an uncomplaining sufferer. She was a daughter of Ira and Catherine Maria (Parmelee) Turner. Ira Turner was born in the State of New York, Nov. 24, 1800, and his wife, Catherine Parmelee, at Fairfax, Vt., Feb. 23, 1801. They came west in 1842, and settled in Walworth County, Wis. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Mead was married on May 3, 1886, to her sister, Eliza Turner, who was born July 3, 1833. In 1884 Mr. Mead united with the Methodist church and was ever afterwards a liberal contributor to the support of the church in his community, and held the office of steward and trustee. He donated the land and built upon it the present parsonage, which is one of the best in the conference. Mr. Mead was always ready to aid every good cause and his life was in every respect exemplary.

Emma C. (Mead) Merry, the only surviving child of Henry W. and Ann M. (Turner) Mead, was born on the old homestead, in Hebron, Ill., Sept. 20, 1869. She attended the public school and graduated from the high school in June, 1887. August 14, 1888, she was married in Hebron, Ill., to M. W. Merry, who was born in Chemung Township, McHenry County, Jan. 6, 1862, the son of Waterman and Pleiades (Wilkinson) Merry. Mr. Merry remained un-





A. W. Murphy



Caroline Murphy



der the parental roof until twelve years ago, when he engaged as a clerk in his uncle's store—firm of Groesbeck & Williams, Harvard, Ill., where he remained until 1884, in the meantime attending the Harvard city schools and the high school at Aurora, Ill. In the fall of 1885, Mr. Merry established a drug store of his own in Hebron, Ill., where he still continues in business. Politically he is a Republican and is serving his second term as Postmaster at Hebron, having received his first appointment in 1897. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic Order and I. O. O. F. of Hebron. Mr. and Mrs. Merry are the parents of the following named children: Nina Ann, born July 25, 1889; Clifton Henry, born Feb. 13, 1892, and Celia Florence, born March 21, 1897.

#### ANDREW WILSON MURPHY.

Andrew Wilson Murphy, pioneer settler and farmer, Greenwood, McHenry County, Ill., is descended from Gaelic ancestry, dating back in its American history to the pre-revolutionary period. Patrick Murphy, the founder of the family in America, and grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in County Cork, Ireland, and is believed to have come to America about a quarter of a century before the Revolution, although the exact date is not known. He was married in Virginia to Nancy James, who was a native of the Old Dominion, but of Welsh ancestry. They settled in Braxton County, now in West Virginia, before the Revolutionary War, in what was then a wilderness region with a few hunters as the only settlers. Patrick Murphy became a hunter, but improved a farm and erected upon it substantial log-buildings. The country was mountainous and still occupied by Indians, while bear and other wild game made it a hunter's paradise. Mr. Murphy was a soldier in the Indian wars, and took part in the battle at Point Pleasant, fought at the confluence of the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers, Oct. 10, 1774, in which 1,100 Virginians and nearly 1,000 Indians were engaged, resulting in the defeat of the latter. The historian Bancroft speaks of this battle as the most bloody and best contest in the annals of Indian warfare.

Patrick Murphy and wife were the parents of children named: William, David, Thomas

John, James, Rebecca, Nancy, Polly and Peggy. The father reared his family there in the primitive simplicity of pioneer life, and died on his farm about 1821, aged seventy years, his funeral being yet remembered by the subject of this sketch. John J. Murphy, of this family, who became the father of Andrew W., grew up on the frontier at a time when, as the old hunters expressed it, the country was "all woods, Indians and other varmints," but somehow learned to read. Like his father, he was a hunter and a farmer, and according to the custom of the time, carried his rifle with him at all times, not excepting when going to church. At the time of the Revolutionary War he was too young to become a soldier but, in his time, killed many a bear, panther and wolf, and often made incursions into the forest for deer. John J. Murphy married Lovica Wilson, who was born in Greenbrier County, Va., (now West Virginia), a year or two after her husband, and was the daughter of Robert and Susan Wilson. Robert Wilson was of a colonial family of Scotch-Irish descent, and born in Southern Virginia. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Murphy settled on Elk River in Braxton County, two miles from his father's home. Here he opened up a farm and, by industry and prudent management, became the owner of a farm of 300 acres. He enlisted for the War of 1812, but saw no actual service, as the war soon closed. In political opinion he was a Whig. His children were: Owen J., Andrew Wilson, Felicity, George W., Robert W., Jane, Nancy, Melvina, Susie and Fannie. John J. Murphy died on his farm aged about sixty-three years.

Andrew Wilson Murphy, the second son of this family and the immediate subject of this sketch, was born April 3, 1816, on the Braxton County farm in West Virginia, and received a meager education in the district schools of that region and period, working on the farm in the summer and attending school during three months in the winter for a few terms. He also obtained an inkling of the blacksmith trade, working in his father's shop, and followed this business for some years. October 10, 1839, he was married in his native State to Caroline Squires, who was born in Braxton County, two years his junior, the daughter of Elijah and Betsy (Gibson) Squires. Elijah



Squires was of an old Virginia family from whom he had inherited slaves; but having embraced the faith of the Methodist church (in which he became a class-reader), he disposed of all but two of his slaves. These he would have freed but for a State law which required him to give bond, making him responsible for their conduct and their maintenance if they should become a public charge. Consequently he was gratified when they were freed in accordance with the terms of President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

In 1838 previous to his marriage Andrew W. Murphy, in company with his brother Owen J., made a visit to Iowa. Leaving home on Oct. 3, they made the journey on horseback, crossing the Mississippi River at Fort Madison, and reaching a point fourteen miles west, where they spent ten days visiting friends who had emigrated from the vicinity of their home in West Virginia, one of these being a Mr. George Berry. Then returning eastward they came to McHenry County, Ill., reaching the site of Mr. Murphy's present farm on Nov. 19, 1838. This land had been taken up under "Squatters' Rights" by Almon Stone, who sold his claim assumed to cover two sections, to the Murphy brothers for \$150. There was a log building on the claim, one end of which was set in a hill-side and having a wooden chimney. About ten acres of the land had been broken. When the land came into market the brothers were able to purchase only 240 acres, in order to do so being compelled, in addition to \$100 which they procured in West Virginia, to obtain a loan of \$240 at the rate of 25 per cent per annum. The Murphy brothers being then single, spent their first winter in McHenry County with Nathan Dufield, who had been a neighbor of theirs in West Virginia. In June of the next year, Andrew W. Murphy returned to West Virginia in Company with Cottle and Alan Dufield, the party making the journey of 500 miles with two horses and a "carry-all" in a period of three weeks.

In the early spring after their marriage in October, 1839, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew W. Murphy started by wagon for McHenry County, arriving March 28, 1840. Settling in the log-house on the claim which the brothers had bought, they began life as farmers, some years afterwards erecting a frame house which is still

standing. The brothers managed the farm for five years in partnership, when they divided it. Andrew W. added to his portion until he was the owner of 268 acres in the home farm, besides forty acres near Woodstock and a tract of the same size near Harvard. At different times he has been the owner of 120 acres in Minnesota, 640 acres in Missouri and 400 acres in West Virginia, but has now disposed of all his real estate except his home farm, consisting of 188 acres.

Mr. Murphy began his political life as an old-line Whig, casting his first Presidential vote for William Henry Harrison in 1840, but on the organization of the Republican party, allied himself with Abraham Lincoln in support of the principles of that party. Having joined the Methodist church in his native State at the age of nineteen years, after coming to McHenry County, he became one of the founders and builders of the Methodist church at Queen Anne, and has also been a liberal supporter of the church at Greenwood, of which he has been one of the chief pillars. He has filled the office of class-leader and, for several years, has been a Steward of the church. Mr. Murphy's children are: John W., Elijah B., Norton, Asa, Robert F., Perry, Charles, Mary, Caroline and Etta. Of kindly heart and consistent Christian character, he has carried his religion into his daily life. He is emphatically what may be called a "self-made man," who has gained a competency by industrious habits, frugality and strictly honest methods, and enjoys the respect which rightfully belongs to the sturdy pioneer and the consistent Christian citizen.

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#### HENRY B. MINIER.

Henry B. Minier is one of the pioneers and early merchants of Harvard, McHenry County, who has passed many years of his life as proprietor of a hotel, having been reared to that pursuit by his father, who was an old-time hotel-keeper. The Miniers were originally of mixed French and German ancestry, the ancient home of the family being on the border line between the two nationalities. The name was well known in colonial times in Pennsylvania, and there were also Miniers in Virginia and in New York. The great-grandfather of Henry B. Minier was Abraham Minier, who is



*E. L. McAniff*





believed to have removed from Pennsylvania to New York before the Revolutionary War. The son of Abraham Minier named Henry, was born in Central New York, about 1778, and died in Steuben County near the Pennsylvania State line, where he opened a farm in the woods. His children were: John, Nancy, Sally and Ann. John Minier, the father of Henry B., was born Aug. 21, 1808, in Steuben County, N. Y., where he inherited land from his father and became a farmer. He married in Chemung County, Emily Beard, who was born Jan. 26, 1811, in Connecticut, daughter of Solomon and Sabra (Pritchard) Beard. Mr. Minier sold his farm about 1835 to 1837, and engaged in the hotel business at Big Flats, Chemung County, N. Y., conducting the Big Flats Hotel for a number of years. He bought a farm here passing the remainder of his days, dying in 1890. His children were: Henry B., Sarah F., Emma J., Adelaide, Mary, Ophelia, John R. and Samuel A. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, a respected citizen and served as Postmaster of Big Flats for several years, was Supervisor of his township and a charter member of the Big Flats Masonic Lodge.

Henry B. Minier was born on the farm, June 27, 1833, received a common-school education and grew up in the hotel at Big Flats which his father had taken in charge when the son was three or four years old. Here he assisted in the hotel business and learned the duties of caring for guests. At eighteen years of age he engaged as clerk in a mercantile establishment at Big Flats, and, in the fall of 1858, removed to Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., where he entered into the same line of business in partnership with Charles R. Brown, one of the pioneer citizens and business men of Harvard, their partnership continuing for three years. August 9, 1860, he was married in Harvard to Julia Ayer, born in Kenosha, Wis., Sept. 29, 1843, the daughter of Judge Elbridge Gerry and Mary (Titcomb) Ayer. In 1861 Mr. Minier took charge of the Ayer's Hotel at Harvard, and in 1863, bought out the mercantile business of Charles R. Brown, which he conducted until 1867. He then went to Boone, Iowa, where he opened a railroad eating house, which he conducted successfully several years, but selling out this in 1881, returned to Harvard and again took charge of

the Ayer's Hotel, which he operated for six years. In 1875 Mr. Minier started the Harvard Camp at Lake Geneva, which was conducted as a first-class eating house, but in 1885 he built the Hotel Minier at Geneva Lake, which is a model establishment of its kind, and where he has won a reputation as an ideal host. By long experience, as well as natural adaptation, Mr. Minier is well fitted for the care of guests. Sir John Falstaff's question, "Shall I not take mine ease in mine inn?" would be superfluous in Hotel Minier. In 1896 Mr. and Mrs. Minier built a handsome residence in the modern style of architecture in Harvard, which they have furnished in excellent taste, and which bears all the evidence of culture and refinement. In early life he was a Jacksonian Democrat in political belief, but in view of the issues which culminated in the Civil War, became an adherent of the principles of Abraham Lincoln and the Republican party. His contact with men in public life has made him a man of broad views, and he is a believer in liberal principles and the rights of the common people. Fraternally he is prominently identified with the Masonic Order, being now the only surviving charter member of Harvard Lodge, No. 309, A. F. & A. M.; a member of Harvard Chapter No. 91, R. A. M.; of Calvary Commandery No. 25, K. T., Woodstock, and of Medinah Temple Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Chicago. He has held the office of High Priest of the Harvard Chapter for over twenty consecutive years. At Boone, Iowa, he was Grand Standard Bearer of the Grand Commandery for two years. Among the traveling public he is held in high esteem for his courtesy and consideration, while his natural kindness of heart and genial temperament and his devotion to what is just and right, have won for him the respect and confidence of the entire community.

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#### EDWIN L. McAULIFFE, M. D.

Dr. Edwin Louis McAuliffe, M. D., Woodstock, Ill., a leading physician of McHenry County, was born in Seneca Township, McHenry County, Sept. 20, 1855, the son of Jeremiah and Mary (O'Brien) McAuliffe. Jeremiah McAuliffe was born in the city of Limerick, Ireland, became a school teacher,

was married in his native country to Mary O'Brien, and came to America in the early '40s. Coming to McHenry County he bought unimproved land in Seneca Township, which he improved from a state of nature and became the owner of a good farm of 120 acres. He reared a family of seven children named as follows: Michael, William Henry, Edwin Louis, Alfred James, Francis George, Winfield John and Mary Louisa. The father, Jeremiah McAuliffe, was a member of the Catholic church, a great reader of standard literature and especially well-versed in history. Of broad views and superior ability, he was, withal, a lover of liberty and a patriotic citizen of the American Republic. He died on his farm in McHenry County, May 30, 1895, seventy-five years of age. Michael, the oldest son of this family, was a soldier in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry during the Civil War, enlisting at eighteen years of age, was wounded in battle and, for a period of six months, was a prisoner in Libby Prison.

Dr. Edwin L. McAuliffe received his early training in the public schools, supplemented by instruction received from his father, who was an able teacher, and from other private instructors, thus laying the foundation of a good education. In the meantime, by working upon the farm, he acquired habits of practical industry which have since aided him in his profession. In 1879 he entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated and received his diploma in 1882, at the same time receiving a certificate of honor for strict attention and efficiency in his studies in clinical and didactic lines. He then spent two years as a resident physician and surgeon in the Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, and in 1889 received a certificate of honor in recognition of his service in that institution. During his last year in Rush Medical College, he also took a special course in diseases of the eye and ear under the late Dr. Edward L. Holmes, who was an acknowledged master in that department. He also took a special course under the private instruction of E. Fletcher Ingalls, M. D., in the treatment of diseases of the throat and chest. After retiring from the Michael Reese Hospital, Dr. McAuliffe established an office at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Twenty-second Street, Chicago, where he built up a large and lucrative prac-

tice. He remained here ten years, in the meantime establishing for himself a wide reputation as an able and successful physician.

Becoming worn out by constant and arduous application to his profession, Dr. McAuliffe turned his attention to the oil business, and going to Sarnia, Ontario, he became associated with the Sarnia Oil Company, which was engaged in the oil-refining business, and which he served about two years as Secretary. Returning to his old home in Seneca Township at the end of this period, he bought 260 acres of land constituting one of the best farms in McHenry County, which he leased for some years, but for the past three years, has managed in person and, as a consequence, has found his health much improved by healthful out-door pursuits. While Dr. McAuliffe has not sought practice in his present location, it has naturally come to him, and he now has all he can well attend to. He is a life member of the American Medical Association, and was a delegate to the Association when it held its annual meeting at St. Louis in 1886. He is also a member of the Chicago Medical Society.

Dr. McAuliffe was married at Sarnia, Ontario, Jan. 10, 1895, to Lilian Maddin, who was born at Towanda, Pa., Oct. 13, 1874, the daughter of Samuel Davenport and Mary Agnes (Norton) Maddin, and he and his wife are the parents of three beautiful children: Edwin Louis Maddin McAuliffe, born Aug. 12, 1897; Winfield Davenport Maddin McAuliffe, born Jan. 1, 1900, and Elmo Norton, born Aug. 2, 1902.

Dr. and Mrs. McAuliffe are residing on their farm in the enjoyment of the simple pleasures of rural life, and are bringing up their children in a perfectly natural manner. He believes that healthy bodies are a product of Nature, and that the nearer children live in accordance with natural laws, the more healthful they will be. His children are clothed in the lightest of cotton garments, and go barefoot the year round, no matter how cold the weather. He does not permit the use of confections, and living natural lives on plain food, his children have enjoyed perfect health. The Doctor has had the advantage of the best schools of medicine, with the added experience of hospital and general practice in a large city, and his conclusions are the result of profound reasoning and careful observation. He



*Lillian Maddie McCulliffe*





enjoys in an eminent degree the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

The Maddin family, to which Mrs. McAuliffe belongs, is of Irish descent, Nathan Maddin, her grandfather on the paternal side, having been a pioneer settler of Tioga County, Pa., where he was the owner of mills and water-power. He was also a civil engineer and as such surveyed the line for one of the first railroads constructed in that part of the State, and in recognition of his service in this enterprise, he was presented with a gold watch which is still preserved in the family. He was a Democrat in politics, was widely known, and at one time was a candidate for Congress on the Democratic ticket. He married a Miss Davenport, who was of colonial New England stock. Samuel Davenport Maddin, who is still living, is an inventor of considerable reputation, among the products of his genius in this line being the "Maddin two-wheel pony-binder." He also invented a wheat-binder, which was awarded the first prize at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876. He now resides at Detroit, Mich. His children are: Lilian, Samuel, Leo, John and Helen—all well educated. Mrs. McAuliffe was a pupil in the Convent of the Lady of the Lake at Sarnia, Ontario, and also at the Ursuline Convent at Toledo, Ohio, as well as the high school in Chicago. She is a lady of culture and has a rare talent for music, being able to read at sight some of the most difficult pieces in the repertories of the masters, including such productions as Liszt's "Rhapsodies" and the "Hungarian Fantasie." She began her musical education at six years of age and has enjoyed the advantage of training by some of the most eminent masters. She is an accomplished performer on the piano.

Mrs. McAuliffe's mother, before marriage, was a Miss Mary Norton, and her father built the first house at Montrose, Pa.

#### HENRY M. McOMBER.

The family of McOmber in America is of Scotch-Irish extraction and was represented in the colonies in pre-Revolutionary days. The more immediate ancestors of Henry M. McOmber, of McHenry, McHenry County, Ill., were members of the Society of Friends. John McOmber, father of Henry M. McOmber, was

born in Massachusetts, Nov. 7, 1794, and was educated in the common schools and learned the carpenter's trade. He went with his father's family to Saratoga, N. Y., and was there married Jan. 10, 1817, to Betsy Monroe, born Nov. 15, 1800, a daughter of George Monroe and of Scotch extraction. After his marriage he settled at Colesville, Broome County, N. Y., where his children were born at the dates given below: Matilda, Dec. 14, 1818; Arminda, Aug. 12, 1820; Betsy, May 2, 1822; Henry M., Feb. 27, 1825; John M., April 9, 1828; Alfred E., Oct. 11, 1833, and Warren M., July 9, 1836. In May, 1837, he came to Illinois, bringing his family, making his journey with one two-horse team. He learned from William Holcomb, who had returned to New York from McHenry County, that one Barnum wanted a saw-mill built at McHenry, and crossing the Niagara River, he came through Canada to Detroit and made his way across Michigan, thence through Indiana and into Illinois, arriving at his destination in June, 1837. There was no road from Wheeling, Ill., to McHenry, but trees were marked with a large "H" to designate the line of a little frequented highway, and the cabins of the pioneers were far apart. At McHenry was the little log cabin of Dr. Cristy G. Wheeler, and Barnum had a log shanty near where the south end of the mill-dam now is, and owned the water power. Brown's early tavern had not been built. On the opposite side of the river lived one Harvey, who had settled there in the spring of 1837. Mr. McOmber built a log cabin near Barnum's and entered into contract with Barnum to build the saw-mill. Salisbury and Owen built the dam. This saw-mill, completed in the fall of 1837, was the first one in McHenry County. Mr. McOmber worked at his trade for several years, during which time he built the first frame house there (now a portion of the hotel of James J. Buck), the Universalist church (the first house of worship built in the settlement) and many other buildings at and near McHenry. He was one of the founders of the Universalist church and was prominent in the affairs of the township. It having become known that he had been a Justice of the Peace in New York, he was called "Squire" McOmber. He died May 27, 1824, in his ninetieth year, at the home of his son, Henry M. McOmber. Well read in his

tory and in the Bible, a man of strong mind and broad views, an interesting talker and a forceful debater, he retained his faculties until the end of his life.

Henry M. McOmber was twelve years old when he was brought by his parents from New York State to McHenry, Ill. He attended the first school in McHenry County, taught in Brown's log-tavern building. His text-books were the English Reader and the Columbian Speller, and he has kept them to the present time. He states that only one-half of the building was used as a school-house, and that Brown kept a bar in the other half. Later the boy attended a school kept by Rev. Joel Wheeler in his residence, which stood on the site of the house of Jacob Justin. The pupils at this school were Emma Thomas and Eliza A. Carr, who boarded with Mr. Wheeler, the future Dr. H. T. Brown, Webster and Allen Colby, and John and Henry M. McOmber. Early in life Mr. McOmber worked a leased farm, but later settled on eighty acres two miles south of McHenry, which he improved, and upon which he built a good farm house. In 1855 he became a merchant at McHenry. He was a Deputy Sheriff of McHenry County under Sheriffs Thomas and Ellsworth, was for many years Police Magistrate at McHenry, and is at this time Collector of Taxes for his village. His first Presidential vote was cast for James K. Polk. In 1860, he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and is now an independent voter, and has always been an independent thinker. His retentive memory is stored with many reminiscences of pioneer days. In the fall of 1837 he saw five hundred Indians camped in a beautiful white-oak grove, which then covered the present site of McHenry. He and other boys of the settlement played with the Indian boys, who at first were amused at the failure of the white boys to manage the unstable birch-bark canoes of the red men, but soon many of the white boys became more expert than the Indian lads themselves. The Indians were friendly when without whisky, but when drunk some of them made hostile demonstrations. Once a party of squaws were firing off all the guns they could lay their hands on, though they aimed at nothing in particular. One Indian, known as Captain Morgan, was left behind by the party and Mr. McOmber, as a boy, often went hunting with him. On one

occasion, when the river was covered with thin ice, they tracked seven deer to a point a short distance north of McHenry, where the animals attempted to cross the river, but broke through the ice and tried to regain the shore. Captain Morgan and the boy, walking in Indian file with the Captain ahead, stole within range and when the deer in advance of the others looked up over the bank, the Indian fired quickly and it fell back out of sight. Restraining the ardor of young McOmber, who attempted to rush forward, the Indian reloaded his gun and had not long to wait before he brought down a second deer whose curiosity had led it to its death. He kept loading and waiting and firing until he shot the last of the seven, and the two hunters found them all lying dead within a few feet of each other. There were so many deer in McHenry County that only the choicest portions of their carcasses were used for food and the remainder could not be sold at any price. They frequently appeared in large droves and, in summer time, waded into the river to cool themselves and escape the flies. Captain Morgan was a familiar figure at McHenry in the pioneer days and, always friendly, was welcomed by the settlers. The McOmber cabin had only a partial floor, the space before the fire-place being left open, and Captain Morgan often slept on that little patch of his mother earth.

In December, 1847, Mr. McOmber married Emma E. Thomas, who was born Aug. 14, 1829, at Weathersfield, Wyoming County, N. Y., daughter of Gaius and Eliza (Stanton) Thomas, who has borne him children named: Ella L., Julia E., Cora B., Casper H., Frank I. and Alfred M.

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#### CYRUS L. MEAD.

Cyrus L. Mead, farmer and early settler of Hebron Township, McHenry County, is descended from an old colonial family of Massachusetts, of English-Puritan ancestry. It is believed that the founder of the family in America came from England in the Mayflower. James Mead, the grandfather of Cyrus L., was born in Massachusetts, was a farmer by occupation and owned a farm in Salisbury in that State. He had sons named: David, James, Levi, Stephen, Daniel, Jesse and Jeremiah. Two daughters are also remembered, one of





*C. L. Mead*



whom married a Mr. Merritt, and the other a Mr. Wright. Late in life he went to Galen, Wayne County, N. Y., where his three sons, David, James and Levi, were already living. Three other sons had settled in Ohio, Daniel settling near Dayton, and Stephen and Jesse settling in Huron County. The father died between sixty and seventy years of age. The son Jeremiah, of this family, was born in Salisbury, Mass., Sept. 14, 1790, received a common-school education, became a farmer and was married near his birthplace on Feb. 13, 1814, to Anna Cline. His wife, born in Massachusetts, July 29, 1796, was an orphan, who had been brought up by relatives. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Mead removed to New York State and settled on Sandy Creek, in Oswego County. Here he cleared up a large farm in a heavily timbered region, where he made for his family a good home, becoming the owner of 150 acres of land on which he erected good farm buildings. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Mead were: Diadamia, born June 21, 1816; Emily, born Jan. 19, 1818; Frederick J., born Aug. 7, 1819; Daniel P., born May 23, 1821; Henry W., born May 10, 1823; Jesse H., born April 4, 1825; Cyrus L., born Aug. 13, 1827; Jeremiah C., born June 16, 1829; Stephen P., born Aug. 28, 1831; George, born Aug. 25, 1836. Jeremiah Mead, the father of this family, was an industrious citizen of high moral character and genial disposition, who believed in paying his honest debts, had no enemies and was never engaged in a lawsuit in his life.

Cyrus L. Mead, the subject of this sketch, was born at Sandy Creek, Oswego County, N. Y., and received his education in the district schools, in common with the boys of that period in the rural districts, attending school in winter while working on the farm during the summer months. This he continued until he was nineteen years of age. Having been reared to farm-work, when grown up he naturally adopted that vocation. In October, 1844, his brother Henry W., came to Richmond, McHenry County, Ill., taught school for a time and bought land in Wisconsin. In April, 1850, he started across the plains to California, to engage in gold-mining, returning to Richmond in the fall of 1852. March 17, 1853, he was joined at Richmond by his brother Cyrus L., and, soon after, the brothers

bought the land on which the village of Hebron now stands. The tract embraced over 400 acres, on which the only building then standing was a small frame house. Their sister, Emily (Mead) Conkling, came west in the fall of 1853, and kept house for them for the next two years. The virgin prairie extended without a habitation for miles, the houses of the early pioneers being widely scattered over the township.

Cyrus L. Mead was married Jan. 27, 1855, at Galen, Wayne County, N. Y., to Finette A. Carman, who was born at Blue Mound, Wis., the daughter of Sidney and Mary (Harrington) Carman. Her father, Sidney Carman, was born in Tompkins County, N. Y., the son of Adam and Hannah (Dean) Carman. Adam Carman was a member of the Society of Friends, or Quakers, and a pioneer farmer in Seneca and Tompkins Counties, N. Y. His children were: Israel, Anna, Sidney, Mahala, Solomon, David, Stephen and Finette. Adam Carman, the father of this family, died in Seneca County, N. Y., at the age of about sixty-three years. Sidney Carman, his son, and the father of Mrs. Cyrus L. Mead, received a common-school education for that time, was reared as a farmer, but coming west in 1832 or 1833, became a lead-miner in the vicinity of Galena. Later he became associated with John Brink, a Government Surveyor of that time, whom he assisted in surveys in Southern Wisconsin. Mr. Brink made the Government Survey of what had previously been known as "Big Foot Lake," but to which he gave the name of Lake Geneva, by which it has since become widely known. The party had many exciting adventures during the time they were employed in the wilds of Wisconsin.

Sidney Carman married in Sauk County, Wis., about 1835, Mary Harrington, who was born in that region, the daughter of Zenas and Susannah (Ball) Harrington, and they settled in the same locality, where Mr. Carman engaged in lead-mining. In 1845 he returned to the State of New York, but in 1849, crossed the plains to California, where he was engaged in mining for gold for three years, when he again returned to New York. After having made two trips to California, he bought a farm in Seneca County, N. Y., but later removed to Sheboygan County, Wis., and bought a farm there. He finally went to Kansas, where he



improved a farm, and where he died. His wife, Susannah, having died leaving two daughters—Finette and Martha—he married her sister, Julia Harrington, who bore him four children—Francis, Gertrude, Hattie and Orrin. Mr. Carman, as shown by his record, was a man of many sturdy traits of character; adventurous, energetic and a great traveler. He died at the age of sixty-nine years.

After his marriage to Miss Carman, Cyrus L. Mead settled on the land in Hebron Township, which he owned in partnership with his brother. The latter having married, they divided their land, Cyrus L. settling in a little box of a house which stood upon the site of his present residence, since erected, and which furnishes a pleasant home. Mr. and Mrs. Mead's children were: Anna C.; Harry J.; Darwin G., who died at the age of eleven years, and Luella A., who died in infancy.

In politics Mr. Mead is an original Republican, casting his votes for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln in the early days of that party. He is an independent thinker and has established a reputation as an upright and public-spirited citizen. He is an earnest friend of education, having served as a member of the School Board for twenty-two years; has also served as Road Commissioner five years and the same length of time as Thistle Commissioner. He is a non-affiliated Mason, and possesses a high character coupled with a large fund of information acquired by careful observation and extensive reading.

Anna C., the daughter and oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus L. Mead, was married in Hebron, April 10, 1879, to George P. Goddard, who was born in Massachusetts, March 24, 1851, the son of Lewis W. and Eunice (Willard) Goddard. When seventeen years of age Mr. Goddard came to Hebron and, after acquiring a common-school education, learned the carpenter's trade and became a contractor. He and his family reside in Hebron. Of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Goddard, Henry Albert is a graduate of the Hebron High School and of the Milwaukee School of Pharmacy, and is now a member of the firm of Rowe & Goddard, druggists of Hebron. Henry J. Mead, the son of Cyrus L. Mead and wife, married in Nebraska, Mary McCawley, and they have one child, Luella A.

#### HENRY CLAY MEAD.

Mr. Henry Clay Mead, one of McHenry County's pioneer settlers and prominent citizen of the town of McHenry, descends from a Puritan family that emigrated from England and were among the early settlers of Vermont. His great-grandfather, Samuel Mead, served in the patriot army throughout the War of the Revolution, and was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. His grandfather was born in Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt., and was engaged in felling, hewing and sawing lumber and lost his life through an accident in a log pit, about 1830. He married Roxana Bigelow, and they were the parents of children named Lucinda, Sabrina, Harriet, William, George and Charles. William Mead, the father of Henry C., was born April 30, 1809. In his early days the country schools afforded very limited advantages, and William was largely self-educated, although he early manifested decided business ability. At the age of seventeen he "bought his time" of his father and began business as a butcher on his own account, but after his father's death, returned home and for several years devoted himself to the care and management of the farm until his mother married a second time to a Mr. Mossman. Of this union there were no children. Mr. William Mead emigrated from Vermont to Illinois in 1844, bringing with him his wife and three children, Harriet S., Henry C. and Frank W. Another daughter, Ada C., was born in McHenry, but died in infancy. The family journeyed to Chicago by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes, and then by wagon to McHenry County, where Mr. Mead pre-empted 240 acres of land lying three miles west of what is now McHenry village. This land he improved and increased his holdings by the purchase of 204 acres of farm and forty acres of wood-land. Mr. Mead was a relentless foe of intemperance and was the first man in McHenry County who refused to furnish liquor at a barn-raising, substituting therefor a bountifully ordered supper. He was an old line Whig until the formation of the Republican party, when he espoused the principles of that organization. Mr. Mead was widely known and highly esteemed, and for many years held the office of Road Commissioner. He was a



*Mrs C L Mead*





Deacon in the Congregational Church, contributed two-thirds of the funds needed for the erection of a church edifice in Ringwood, where both he and his wife were worshippers, and was also active in Sunday School work in both Ringwood and McHenry. In his younger days he was Captain in the militia, and was at one time called into active service. He died on his farm April 17, 1876, aged sixty-seven years.

Henry Clay Mead was born in Pittsford, Vt., July 31, 1839, and came to Wisconsin with his parents at four or five years of age, yet many incidents of the journey are indelibly impressed upon his memory. His primary education was received in a log school house, the dimensions of which were ten by twelve feet, his preceptor being Asahel C. Thompson, now a venerable resident of Greenwood, and among his fellow pupils were the Thompsons, Richardsons, Sullivans and others of the early pioneer families who have helped to make McHenry County what it is today. Later he attended the McHenry High School and Todd's Seminary at Woodstock. On May 24, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company A, of the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, first known as the Woodstock Light Guards. His service was an arduous one, and his record for gallantry is unsurpassed. Besides taking part in many forced marches and skirmishes, he fought with his regiment at Wilson's Creek, Haines' Bluff, Fort Henry, Shiloh, Corinth, Holly Springs, Natchez, Vicksburg and Champion Hills, as well as in many less important engagements. The malaria rising in the marshes of the southwest, impregnated his system with the deadly typhus and he became a victim of typhoid fever. A Southern matron, whose womanly instincts were stronger than her Confederate loyalty, cared for him for one month, when his father arrived at the front and carried him to his Northern home. Upon recovery, he rejoined his regiment, and on Jan. 1, 1864, his knee was crushed while unloading supplies at Camp Cowen, near Vicksburg, but he remained in the service until mustered out at Springfield, Ill., the following July, this accident, however, preventing his re-enlistment as a veteran. After quitting the service, he returned to McHenry County and began farming on a tract of 204 acres of land which he purchased from

his father. This property he has improved extensively and converted into one of the best dairy farms in the county. An artesian well of three-inch bore affords a constant supply of pure water, and an excellent system of tile drainage renders the soil dry and arable. In 1892 he took up his residence in McHenry, where he has since lived, and having at one time read law, practices considerably in the Justices' and Probate courts. Mr. Mead is a man of enlightened public spirit, politically an ardent Republican, and has filled the offices of Secretary of the County Committee of his party continuously since 1892; is also Justice of the Peace. At Omro Junction, Wis., Sept. 27, 1864, he married Amy Loyett Kennedy, daughter of Andrew J. and Laura (Bostwick) Kennedy, who first settled on a farm of 160 acres near Richmond, and then removed north of Genoa Junction, and later to Clay County, Neb. They are both still living, aged respectively eighty-six and eighty-five years, and reside with their children in McHenry County. Mr. Kennedy was born in Batavia, N. Y., and came to McHenry County, Ill., in 1833, settling in Richmond Township. Mrs. Kennedy was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., and came to McHenry County when twenty-one years of age. Mr and Mrs. Kennedy were married on Nov. 24, 1841, and are the parents of nine children, seven of whom are living, nineteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Mead was born Sept. 23, 1842. She is a lady of education, refinement and cultivated taste, a graduate of the Seminary at Genoa Junction, Wis., and of the McHenry High School. To her and her husband have been born seven children: William H., Earl L., Hattie L., Lillian and Leon (twins who died in infancy), Carl E. and Iva A. Mr. and Mrs. Mead were formerly Congregationalists, but are now members of the Universalist Church.

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#### EDWIN E. MEAD.

Edwin E. Mead, foreman of the enameling department, Oliver Typewriter Company, Woodstock, Ill., fills a highly responsible position in connection with this important industry. While many of the arts and sciences are called into use to render the Oliver Typewriter not only of the highest utility, but a "thing of

beauty and a joy forever," among them none is more essential to perfection in these respects than the enameling. This art is conceded to have originated with the Japanese, and there is nothing produced in any country to be compared in perfection of finish with some of their ancient lacquer work. The "Oliver," however, is one of the most perfectly enameled and beautifully ornamented machines of any kind produced in any country. The management of this department, as already indicated, is in charge of Edwin E. Mead, who possesses much artistic talent. Mr. Mead was born in Woodstock, Ill., Feb. 9, 1868, the son of Charles and Rosina P. (Woodard) Mead.

Charles Mead, the father of Edwin E. Mead, was born in Oswego County, N. Y., Jan. 25, 1837. His father, also named Charles, was a farmer who settled in New York at an early day. Charles (1) married Phoebe Rogers and they had seven children—four sons and three daughters—who came west with their parents when Charles (2) was about ten years old, the family settling on a farm in Kishwaukee Prairie, four miles southwest of Woodstock. The names of the children of this family were: Roxana, Elias, Elizabeth Orson, Oscar, Charles (father of Edwin E.) and Diantha. At twenty Charles (2) went to work on a farm, but five years later began learning the carpenter's trade with Lewis M. Woodard of Woodstock. On January 1, 1857, he married Rosina Woodard, daughter of Lewis and Seviah (Bisbee) Woodard—the Woodard family then being residents of Dover, Bureau County, Ill. Charles Mead and wife remained in Bureau County one year, when they removed to Woodstock, and, in February, 1864, he enlisted as an artillery-man in the Elgin Battery for the Civil War, serving until July, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. While in the service he was in hospital for some time at Nashville, Tenn., and later, being disqualified for active service in the field, was on duty as a nurse. During his period of service he was stationed at Corinth and Vicksburg, Miss., and at New Albany, Ind. Returning to Woodstock after his discharge, Mr. Mead worked at his trade until 1887, when he removed to Clay County, Neb., carrying on his trade there, but again coming to Illinois, spent two years at Elgin and also worked at his trade in Wood-

stock, where he died Nov. 8, 1893. His children were: Frank E., now living in Elroy, Wis.; Owen G. and Edwin E., of Woodstock; Bertha A., wife of Frank Hewitt, Cuyler, Ill., and Sarah E., wife of Charles Williams, Kenosha, Wis.

Lewis M. Woodard, father of Mrs. Charles Mead, and grandfather on the maternal side of Edwin E. Mead, was a native of Steuben County, N. Y., born Sept. 15, 1813. In 1843 he settled at Crystal Lake, McHenry County, Ill., where he remained two years, when he removed to Seneca Township, and there entered Government land. In 1861 he removed to Woodstock, where he spent the remainder of his life, prosecuting his business as a carpenter and contractor, erecting many buildings in various parts of McHenry County. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church, and he filled a number of local offices, including those of Assessor and Collector and School Director. He had received only three months schooling in his early life, but his innate ability enabled him to keep well abreast of others who had enjoyed superior educational advantages. His death occurred at Woodstock, March 16, 1891.

Mrs. Lewis M. Woodard (nee Seviah Bisbee), daughter of Ezra and Abigail (Hibbard) Bisbee, was born in Middlebury, Vt., May 19, 1815, and died July 18, 1898. Her father was a farmer and had one other daughter named Sarah, who married Edwin Powell and lived mostly in McHenry and Peoria Counties. In 1832 Miss Bisbee came to Chautauqua, N. Y., where, on Sept. 14, 1837, she married Lewis M. Woodard, and, in 1843, they came west, locating at Crystal Lake, Ill., as already explained. Their children were: Rosina (became Mrs. Charles Mead); Martha, who married Josiah Hill; Philander, and Dora, wife of William Borden.

Edwin E. Mead received his education in the public schools of Woodstock, and, beginning at the age of seventeen years, learned the trade of a painter and decorator in that city. He then located in Elgin, where he remained three years, and in the meantime learned the art of enameling. Returning to Woodstock in 1893, he there resumed his business as decorator, but in 1896 became associated with the Oliver Typewriter works as foreman of the enameling department. Great care is taken in this de-



partment, not only to see that the ornamentation shall be in good taste, but to have the enameling artistic and perfect, and to secure these results, neat and tasteful workmen are absolutely essential. Mr. Mead has under his direction a number of experienced workmen, all of whom have been specially educated for this branch of work. As a rule all the employees of the Oliver Company have been carefully selected and well trained in their branches of occupation, and frequently remain in the same line for years. Thus, each part of the work is completed under the eye of experienced specialists.

Mr. Mead was married at Elgin, Ill., April 27, 1893, to Lydia M. Clifford, daughter of George W. and Mary Moore (Hibbard) Clifford. The father was born in Plattsburg, N. Y., April 6, 1838, and the mother near Plattsburg, Feb. 5, 1833. They were married Jan. 1, 1863, and had five children: John C., Prudie Almena, George W., Charles M. and Lydia M. George W. Clifford came west about 1861, and his wife about the same time; he settled at Serena, Ill., and has spent most of his life as an artesian well borer. His present home is at Leland, LaSalle County. Mrs. Clifford died Sept. 18, 1880.

Mr. Clifford's father was John Clifford, a native of New York or Vermont, and his wife was Almena Wheelock. They came west with their son, George W. John Clifford lived to a very old age, and his wife also died at an advanced age.

Mrs. George W. Clifford's parents were Timothy and Lydia (Moore) Hibbard, who came west from New York in the '60's and settled on a farm near Harding, Ill., where they spent the remainder of their lives. He died about forty-five years ago, but his wife, who was born May 6, 1810, lived to be ninety-one years old, dying in 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin E. Mead now reside in their own home at Woodstock. They have three children, viz.: Harold Clifford, born July 16, 1895; Bernice Evelyn, born Feb. 17, 1897, and Irma Minnie, born Feb. 11, 1900. Fraternally Mr. Mead is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He takes a great interest in music and has been connected with different Woodstock bands since 1885; is now a member of the Oliver Typewriter Band, of Woodstock.

#### JOHN MULLEN.

John Mullen, one of the venerable pioneers of Hartland Township, McHenry County, is a man possessing the best characteristics of the Celtic race and has retained, to his present advanced age, a remarkably active mind. Born at Queenstown, County Cork, Ireland, in June, 1815, he is the only child of Bartholomew and Johanna (Buckley) Mullen. In early childhood he was left an orphan, his father dying when he was two and a half years old and his mother some years later. At an early age he learned the tailor's trade in the city of Cork, and there he worked at his trade until twenty-one years of age, when he came to America. Sailing from Cork, Ireland, at nine o'clock in the morning, April 13, 1836, in the good ship "Tally-ho," he landed at Castle Garden, New York, at noon, June 20. After working at his trade in New York City for two years, he came west, locating in Cleveland, Ohio, where he still followed the tailor's trade. In 1884 Mr. Mullen moved to Chicago, and the same year visited Hartland Township, where he purchased 200 acres of heavily timbered land from the United States Government. He worked at his trade in Chicago until 1847, and then settled on his land in Hartland Township. Being entirely unaccustomed to the use of an ax and farming utensils, Mr. Mullen had a hard experience in becoming inured to farm life, but by perseverance and an indomitable will, he built a log cabin, cleared up his land, and finally had a good farm and a comfortable home. He afterwards bought 240 acres of land on Kishwaukee Prairie, where his son Edward now lives. In 1902 the sons added eighty acres to the homestead, which now contains 280 acres.

In 1839 Mr. Mullen was married in New York City to Mary Murphy, who was born in County Cork, Ireland, about 1815, and they became the parents of the following named children: Bartholomew, born in New York; John M. and Edward F., born in Cleveland, Ohio; Mary, born in Chicago; Dennis J., Michael W., Johanna and Julia, born in Hartland Township. Of their children John M. is one of the leading merchants of Woodstock; Edward owns and carries on a large stock-farm in Hartland Township; Dennis and Michael conduct the home farm; Bartholomew



is a resident of Elgin, Ill.; Johanna married William H. Burns, of Sioux City, Iowa; Julia married George Howard, of Hartland Township. One of the excellent characteristics of the Irish Celt is his extreme loyalty to his parents. The aged sire is always well and kindly cared for and maintains his influence and authority as long as he lives.

From a small beginning Mr. Mullen became one of the substantial men of his township. While a resident of Chicago, he lived on the corner of Dearborn and North Water Streets, owning the house in which he resided, but not the lot on which it stood. Mr. Mullen was well acquainted with many of the Chicago pioneers, and attended several meetings which were held for the purpose of raising recruits for the Mexican War. During a time of intense excitement, when an attempt was made to burn the city of Chicago, Mr. Mullen and several other tax-payers were called upon to serve as night watchmen. While a resident of Cleveland, Ohio, he was a member of the first fire department organized in that city, and, in 1844, in the same city, he had the honor of seeing that great representative Democrat, Andrew Jackson, and also Martin Van Buren and General Cass. The great crowd passed on by General Jackson's carriage, and were greeted by him with a hand shake, which Mr. Mullen remembers with great pleasure. The General invited the Irish to have dinner at his cost, but though his loyal supporters, they declined to do this. Another thing Mr. Mullen remembers of this meeting was the scar exhibited by the General where he was shot in the hand in the war of 1812. When Mr. Mullen came to Hartland Township there were a few settlers there living in log cabins, and all kinds of native game abounded. He brought with him from Chicago an iron stove, which was the first one ever brought into the township. While Mr. Mullen has reached the venerable age of eighty-eight years, he has had but very little sickness and is a remarkably well-preserved man, both physically and mentally, being able to read and write without the aid of glasses. In religious belief he a devout member of the Catholic Church, which he has always liberally supported, and in political views is a staunch Democrat.

Mrs. Mullen died in 1885, aged seventy years and nine months.

#### THE MORTON FAMILY.

Robert Morton, the father of Edward Morton, Sr., was born in County Cavan, Ireland, Nov. 14, 1791, the son of a farmer who, according to the custom of the country, held a life-lease on the farm which he occupied. The family were of Scotch-Irish descent, although they had lived for many generations in the part of Ireland just named. The father of this Robert Morton was one of the first to espouse the Methodist faith in Ireland, and was a class-leader of that denomination soon after the separation of its founders from the Church of England. The children of the latter, whose names are remembered, were Robert and Charles S. Robert Morton received a good education for that period and country, and was an expert accountant. He became a quarryman and married in his native county Margaret Fee, who was born Dec. 9, 1798, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. Robert Morton came to America soon after the War of 1812, arriving at New York after a voyage of four weeks. He engaged in the grocery business near Yonkers, N. Y., and a year later sent for his wife, who had remained in Ireland to look after some property inherited from her father's estate. Having finally settled in Westchester County, N. Y., he resumed his occupation as a quarryman, and assisted in quarrying the stone at Sing Sing and Watertown used in constructing locks on the Erie Canal. He was an expert in this line and quarried the four large columns for the custom house in New York City. He pursued this business for many years and prospered in it. His children, all born in Westchester County, were: Rachel, born Oct. 18, 1819; Edward, born Aug. 18, 1821; Charles, born Dec. 3, 1823; David, born March 27, 1825; Margaret, born Dec. 15, 1826; Mary J., born Oct. 14, 1829; Elizabeth, born Feb. 21, 1833; Eleanor, born Aug. 14, 1835; Robert, born Sept. 17, 1837; John, born June 2, 1839; William, born July 28, 1843. In 1847 Mr. Morton came to Illinois by steamer to Albany, by railway to Buffalo and lake steamer to Chicago; going thence to Dundee, Ill., where he remained six months, when he moved to Algonquin Township, McHenry County. Here he bought 560 acres of land at the Government price of \$1.25 per acre, besides forty acres of timber-land on Fox River. He built on his land one of the earliest frame houses in the



Ed Weston Jr



Maria Weston

SECRET  
CLASS  
PROPERTY OF THE UNITED STATES



township, besides making other improvements, providing for himself and family an excellent home. His children, as they began life for themselves, settled around him. Here he died at the venerable age of ninety years. In politics Mr. Morton was a Lincoln Republican and a zealous Unionist during the Civil War. Two of his sons, John and Robert, became Union soldiers, serving three years in Illinois infantry regiments. Although they participated in many severe battles, both returned to their homes in safety. Mr. Morton was an industrious and highly respected citizen.

Edward Morton, the son of Robert, was born at Sing Sing, N. Y., on the spot where the New York State prison now stands. He received a common-school education, and, in 1849, came west arriving at Chicago on June 1st. He had previously been married at Yonkers, N. Y., to Charlotte A. Brewer, who was born at Tarrytown, N. Y., in 1821, the daughter of James and Mary (Purdy) Brewer. The father was a farmer, and the families of both parents were of Revolutionary stock. Their children were, William, Purdy, Mary, Charles, Charlotte A., Moses, Elizabeth J. and one whose name is not remembered. The Purdy family held a land warrant for services rendered by their father in the Revolutionary War. This warrant was laid upon land now constituting a part of the site of the city of Peoria, but its value not being understood, it was finally sold for an insignificant price to a speculative lawyer. Coming to McHenry County, Mr. Morton settled on a tract of eighty acres of land given to him by his father. This he improved, building upon it a fine house, and adding to his real estate until he was the owner of 306 acres. In 1884, having sold his farm, he moved to Algonquin, where he still lives, retired from active business life. Like his father he is a staunch Republican in political belief, and has held the office of Highway Commissioner for his township for the past twelve years. As a citizen he is held in high repute in the community in which he resides. Mr. and Mrs. Morton have been the parents of seven children, viz.: Mary Elizabeth, Charlotte J. (died at the age of two years), Edward, Charlotte J. (2), Charles W., Seraphina and George. Mrs. Morton died Sept. 22, 1886.

Edward Morton, Jr., son of the preceding,

was born at Yonkers, N. Y., April 15, 1848, and, at one year of age, was brought by his parents to McHenry County, where he grew up among the pioneer surroundings of that locality. Here he received a common-school education, the first school attended by him being taught in a little log school house by Miss Sarah Wasson. Among his schoolmates who still survive are Albert Corl and Sheriff Keys. December 12, 1867, he was married in Algonquin to Miss Maria Everett, who was born at Bristol, Ill., April 12, 1849, the daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Brace) Everett. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Morton lived on a farm for two years, when he removed to Algonquin, where he engaged in carpenter work for the next seven years, which he then exchanged for the painting business. In 1889 he bought the Pingry Hotel at Algonquin, and having removed the old structure, erected on its site a new building of improved architecture with modern conveniences. This is one of the best hotels in McHenry County, is fitted as a summer resort and is well patronized. Mr. Morton has a valuable collection of curiosities, including archaeological specimens belonging to the Stone Age, besides relics of Indian tribes and other matters of historic interest. He is also noted for his skill as a hunter and a fisherman, and, in former years, made many trips to the Lake Superior region, where he has been a successful hunter of deer and other wild game. He is one of the best informed authorities in reference to the favorite resorts of game and fish, and has hunted and fished with success along Fox River and its chain of lakes, which abound in the finest varieties of black bass and pike. In political views Mr. Morton is an earnest Republican and was a supporter of Gen. Grant for his second term. Fraternally he is a member of the Algonquin Lodge, Modern Woodmen of America, and of the Cary Station Lodge I. O. O. F. Of genial temperament, he is a popular host and respected citizen.

Joseph Everett (deceased), the father of Mrs. Morton, was a farmer of Bristol, Kendall County and was an early settler of that locality. He married Sarah Ann Brace, who was born in Bristol, and their children were: Mary E., Maria E. and Annie E. Mr. Everett died in 1852 and his wife in 1854. The latter was the daughter of Edward and Jerusha

Brace. Mr. Brace was a pioneer and farmer of Kendall County, having come from New York State. He died at the age of ninety years. His children were: Debora, Stephen, John, Comfort, Nancy, Thomas, Amelia and Eliza.

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#### DR. FRANK J. MAHA.

Dr. Frank J. Maha, Algonquin, Ill., one of the leading physicians of McHenry County, was born in Chicago in December, 1872, son of Frank and Mary Maha, both of his parents being natives of Bohemia. He received his preliminary education in the public schools of Chicago and under private teachers, afterwards taking a four-year course in the Bennett Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated in 1900. In 1898, two years before his graduation, he received a license from the Illinois State Board of Health to practice medicine in the State of Illinois. He successfully passed a rigid examination, and immediately began to practice medicine. Coming to Algonquin in May, 1899, he soon established a lucrative and extensive practice, and has met with remarkable success. His office is equipped with all the modern medical appliances, and he possesses an excellent medical library of valuable works, and is well read in the most advanced publications of medical science. He is one of the attending surgeons at St. Anthony's Hospital, Chicago.

Dr. Maha is entirely a self-made man, his success being wholly the result of his own personal efforts and ability. His father died when he was about nineteen years old and he became the main support of the family. He first engaged as a clerk in a mercantile establishment, and continued in this business for thirteen years.

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#### LESTER A. MORELAND.

If a piece of mechanical work is to be well done, good tools are a prime necessity. If the mechanical product is of delicate construction, as that of the "Oliver Typewriter," for example, the tools to be used must be similar in point of fineness and delicacy, and specially adapted to the work to be performed. One of the first requisites in the production of the Oliver Typewriter was the furnishing of the

tools with which to construct the machine. This important department in connection with the Typewriter Company is in charge of Mr. Lester A. Moreland, who was born on a farm in Cayuga County, N. Y., Dec. 11, 1873, the son of Lewis Moreland, a carpenter and skilled mechanic. The son, Lester A., received a fair education by attendance on the public schools and an academy for some time, and, when about sixteen years of age, began to learn the machinist trade in the works of the Straight Line Engine Company, of Syracuse, N. Y., where he remained two years. He then entered into the employment of the E. C. Stearns Bicycle Company of Syracuse, and still later was in the employ, for one and a half years, of the American Humber Bicycle Company, at Westboro, Mass., for a part of the time being foreman of one of the departments. In 1897 he went to Toronto, Canada, where he was assistant superintendent of the Stearns Bicycle Company, but a year later (1898) came to Woodstock and engaged as tool-maker for the Oliver Typewriter Company. His skill as a workman was recognized three months later by his selection as foreman for this important department, as here the peculiar tools necessary to the construction of the "Oliver" are made. Here is a large field for the exercise of mechanical ingenuity and skill, in which Mr. Moreland has proved himself an important factor by his success in the improvement of tools already in use, or the invention of others required for the more successful prosecution of this branch of manufacture. Desiring to fit himself for business on a larger scale, he has of late been taking a course of instruction in a correspondence school of mechanical engineering. Mr. Moreland was married at Franklinville, Ill., in 1899, to Miss Emma J. Chappel, who was born in Alden Township, McHenry County, the daughter of Harvey and Maria (Stewart) Chappel. Her father was a soldier of the Civil War, during which he was wounded. Mr. Moreland resides with his family in Woodstock, where he is well known and has a large circle of friends. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic Order.

Lewis Moreland, the father of Lester A., married at Sennett, N. Y., Harriet Daniels, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Armon Daniels, her father being a carpenter and farmer. Lewis



Moreland and wife are the parents of three children—two sons and one daughter. Moses Moreland, grandfather of Lester A., was born Nov. 13, 1800, the son of Stephen and Sally (March) Moreland, who were natives of New Jersey, born respectively in 1766 and 1771. About 1795 they emigrated from New Jersey to Ballston, Saratoga County, N. Y., where they remained until 1806, when they moved to Brutus (now Sennett) Cayuga County, locating on Lot 49. Here they followed farming ten years (1809 to 1818); in 1820 moved to Scipio, and there kept a public house some ten years where "Balt's Corners" now is, when they again moved to Auburn, N. Y. The mother having died here March 18, 1833, the father afterward made his home with his son Moses then living on Lot 22, in the town of Sennett, where he died Aug. 22, 1848, aged eighty-two years. Stephen Moreland and wife had seven children who grew up to maturity: Polly, Betsy, Moses, Caleb, Stephen, William and Harriet. Moses remained with his parents until he was thirty years of age. Being of a truant disposition he failed to avail himself of such educational advantages as were afforded at that time, and at eighteen began learning the carpenter and joiner's trade, afterwards being employed at various places until he reached the age of twenty-four years, when he entered into the employment of Clark Camp of Auburn, who was largely engaged in the business of building and repairing mills. After being thus employed some four years, he engaged in business for himself, the reputation he had acquired as a mill-wright securing for him many contracts in different parts of the State—a line of business in which he continued to be more or less extensively employed during his active life. He built and operated a saw-mill of his own, besides being interested in a number of other enterprises, some of which proved successful while others did not. While thus employed he carried on farming operations most carefully, feeling that, in case of disaster in his outside business relations, he would here find something upon which he could rely with entire safety. Few men can look back upon a life in which economy, industry and perseverance played a more conspicuous part in the

achievement of final success than could Mr. Moreland. On Feb. 25, 1830, Mr. Moreland was married, at Brutus, Cayuga County, N. Y., to Nancy (Wilson) Putnam, and they had eight children: Melissa J., born Dec. 1, 1830, married Robert Matteson, of Sennett, March 18, 1851; Lewis P., born July 9, 1832, married Harriet Daniels of Skeneateles, N. Y., Sept. 25, 1856; Ann E., born Nov. 21, 1834, married Willard Daniels of Skeneateles, November, 1856; Parley W., born Oct. 14, 1836, married Aurelia Clapp of Skeneateles, Nov. 29, 1860; Nancy A., born April 26, 1841, died March 24, 1842; Theodore M., born March 10, 1844; Alfred J., born May 13, 1846, and Lester E., born Oct. 22, 1848, died Jan. 6, 1852. In politics Mr. Moreland was a Whig until 1840, when he became a Democrat, though making it a rule to vote for the best men for office, as he understood it, without regard to partisan associations. Though never a member of any church, he was, for many years, a regular attendant on the services of the Presbyterian church at Sennett.

Lewis Putnam, the father of Mrs. Moses Moreland, was a native of Vermont, born Aug. 22, 1769, and her mother at Salem, in the town of Hebron, Washington County, N. Y., Feb. 15, 1773. Her parents were married Jan. 11, 1794, and in 1804 settled in Brutus. Before this time the father had pursued the occupation of a wool-carder and cloth-dresser, but after his removal carried on the milling business, owning and operating one grist and two saw-mills, besides being engaged quite extensively in farming—at one time owning 640 acres. He was a Justice of the Peace for some twenty years, and was one of the representative men of his town. His death occurred Jan. 10, 1832, and that of his wife, March 18, 1845. The now numerous family of Putnams at Brutus, N. Y., are descended from this couple. Their children were: Anna, born Aug. 10, 1776, died Oct. 12, 1851; Asa, born Dec. 2, 1797, died Aug. 3, 1872; Robert, born Sept. 12, 1799; Jane, born Aug. 12, 1801; Lewis, born July 6, 1803; Parley, born Feb. 7, 1806, died at Niles, Mich., March 18, 1875; Nancy, born Aug. 6, 1809; Melissa, born July 23, 1818.

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## ANNIE M. MORGAN.

Mrs. Annie M. Morgan, of Woodstock, Ill., is an active and enterprising business woman. Her mother, who is an estimable lady of Hebron, Ill., was born near Smith's Falls, Montague Township, Ontario, Canada, June 16, 1838, the daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Walker) Wynn.

Edward Wynn was of Welsh ancestry, but lived at Wexford, and later in Dublin, Ireland. He was twice married, each time in his native country. Of his first marriage eight sons were born, three of whom, John, William and Edward, came to America. Edward Wynn, Sr., was a farmer by occupation and, when a young man, served in the French and English war against Napoleon, and was in the famous march across the Alps. Mr. Wynn's first wife died and he married either in Kildare, Ireland, or in London, England, Elizabeth Walker, the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Graham) Walker. Two children, Samuel and Amelia, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wynn while living in England, and the following named were born in Ontario, Canada: Rebecca, Isabel, Margaret, Isaac and Angelo. Edward Wynn came with his family to America about 1834, crossing the Atlantic Ocean in a sailing vessel and landing in Quebec. He settled on land which he cleared from the forest near Smith's Falls, Ontario, where several of his older sons were located. Mr. Wynn converted his land into a good farm, from which he obtained a comfortable living, and upon which he built a log-cabin with a big fire-place, and here lived in pioneer style until his children grew to maturity. In earlier manhood he was possessed of considerable wealth, but later gave a great deal of his property to his older sons. When he became advanced in years, he sold his farm and moved to Brockville, Ontario, where he died at the age of ninety-four years; his wife died in Almont, Ontario, when eighty-three years of age. They were members of the Church of England. According to tradition Mrs. Wynn's ancestors—the Walkers and Grams—were very wealthy and, at the present time, there is a large fortune in the mother country belonging to their heirs. Efforts have been made in recent years to recover this wealth, but so far without success.

Rebecca Wynn, the mother of Mrs. Morgan,

married at Ogdensburg, N. Y., May 19, 1862, Joseph Sylvester, who was born in Brockville, Ontario, June 16, 1836, of English and German ancestry. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester lived in Brockville for several years, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. In 1867 they came to Harvard, Ill., but shortly afterwards moved to Lynn County, Wis., and in 1872 removed to Hebron, Ill., where he engaged in farming and followed that occupation until his death, which occurred Jan. 12, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester were the parents of two children: Annie M. (Mrs. Morgan) and Lizzie. Mr. Sylvester was a man well known and highly respected for his reliability and strength of character. Both he and his wife were members of the Church of England. Mrs. Sylvester united with the church in Ontario when about fourteen years of age, but on coming to Hebron, Ill., she and her husband united with the Methodist church, there being no church here of her former creed. She is a lady of many excellent characteristics and sincerely devoted to her church and family. Her daughter Lizzie married Charles Householder, an estimable citizen of Hebron, Ill., who died Dec. 24, 1902.

Mrs. Annie M. Morgan, the subject of this sketch, was born in Brockville, Ontario, and came with her parents to Hebron when a little child. She received her education in the high school at Hebron and Richmond and, after graduating from the last-named institution, taught school for two years in Lynn Township, Walworth County, Wis. She then taught for two years in Alden, two years in Hebron and afterwards instructed private classes in the science of algebra in Ringwood. She married Mr. Fred Morgan of Hebron, Ill., and in 1889, they removed to Ringwood, where they resided for many years. While a resident of Ringwood, Mrs. Morgan was active in affairs connected with the Methodist Episcopal church. She was for several years a teacher in the Sunday School at Hebron and Ringwood, Vice-President of the Epworth League at Ringwood, Superintendent of the Junior League, and being a lady of excellent literary talents, has always been prominent in literary and other entertainments, and for some time a contributor to the "McHenry Plain-Dealer." In 1900 Mrs. Morgan established in Woodstock a



Annie M. Morgan.





ladies' specialty store, in the conduct of which she has shown great skill and marked business ability.

Mrs. Morgan has two daughters, Ellen M., who received a good education in the Ringwood and McHenry High Schools, and married Frank G. Beacking of Woodstock, and Velma J., a little miss attending the public school in Woodstock.

#### WILLIAM H. MUNROE.

William H. Munroe, Postmaster, Ridgefield, Ill., is a veteran soldier of the Civil War who has a record of three years of faithful service to his country in assisting to suppress the rebellion. He was born in Danbury, Conn., May 22, 1838, the son of Henry H. and Eliza (Sanford) Munroe. His father, Henry H. Munroe, was a native of New York State, born Dec. 18, 1817, and came of Scotch ancestry. He received a good education and, in early life, became a carpenter and joiner, but later settled in Danbury, Conn., where he followed the undertaking business for many years. While a resident of Danbury, he was married to Eliza Sanford, who bore him three children: Mary E., born Feb. 10, 1840; William H., born May 22, 1843, and Edward H., born Dec. 26, 1850. About 1853 Henry H. Munroe moved to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on a farm in Dorr Township, but several years later removed to Chicago, where he engaged in the lumber trade and in the manufacture of wooden boxes. During the Civil War he received a Government contract to manufacture cracker boxes at Louisville, Ky., where his factory was twice burned by Confederate troops. After the close of the rebellion he returned to Chicago and resumed his former occupation, which he followed for several years, but being a man of education and religious convictions, he studied for the ministry and became pastor of the Congregational church at Malta and at Bartlett, Ill. October 22, 1895, Mr. Munroe died at Dundee, Ill., aged about seventy-eight years. Mrs. Munroe is still living at the venerable age of ninety years.

William H. Munroe received his primary education in his native State and, when ten years of age, came with his parents to McHenry County, Ill., where he attended the district school in Dorr Township. Later

he moved with his father's family to Chicago, where he worked in his father's box factory and assisted in the lumber business. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in the Chicago Mercantile Battery for three years' service in the Union Army, and, at the end of the first year, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Mr. Munroe was in all the campaigns, battles, marches and skirmishes in which his battery participated, including the entire Siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Arkansas Post, and the Red River campaign. Mr. Munroe was never wounded in battle or taken prisoner, but was sick for one month in hospital in Memphis, and one month in St. Louis. He was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service in Chicago, in July, 1865. After his discharge he returned to Chicago and resumed work in his father's lumber yard, but shortly afterwards received an appointment from the Government as night watchman at the United States Depository in Louisville, Ky., where he continued for ten years, when he was promoted to be Deputy Inspector and Surveyor of Customs.

December 26, 1865, he was married in Chicago to Agnes W. Goodwillie, who was born in Montreal, Canada, May 23, 1847, daughter of Robert and Jean (Monro) Goodwillie, natives of Scotland. Of this union three children were born: Jean H., who married M. B. Hubbard; Mary E. (Mrs. Frank R. Jackman of Woodstock), Cecil E., who married J. J. Jayne.

Mr. and Mrs. Munroe lived the first ten years of their married life in Louisville, Ky., where all of their children were born, and then moved to McHenry County, settling in Dorr Township. Twelve years ago (1891) Mr. Munroe was appointed Postmaster at Ridgefield, Ill., and has held that office continuously ever since with the exception of one year. Politically he is a Republican and held the office of Tax Collector of Dorr Township for one term. As a citizen Mr. Munroe is well known and highly respected for his honest principles and straightforward character.

Robert Goodwillie, father of Mrs. William H. Munroe, was born in Aberdeen, Scotland. He received a common-school education, learned the carpenter's trade, and became a contractor and bridge-builder. In early manhood he came to Montreal, Canada, and there

married Jean Monro, daughter of James and Jennie (Douglass) Monro. James Monro was a native of Scotland and came to Canada, where he was an officer in the custom-house at Quebec. He owned property in Quebec where the officers of the Allen line of ocean steamers are now located. Robert Goodwillie became the contractor for the Victoria bridge across the St. Lawrence River, near Montreal, and also built McGill College in the same city. He was twice married, and the children of his first wife (whose name is not remembered) were: David, Robert, John, Mary and Christina. In 1835 he married for his second wife Jean Monro, who came from Scotland to America in 1833, and of this union there were children named James, Thomas, Walter, William, Douglass, Agnes, and Joseph. Robert Goodwillie died in Montreal in 1855, being then fifty years of age. Two years later (1857) his widow came with her family to Chicago, where she died in 1875. In religious belief Mr. Goodwillie was a Scotch Presbyterian, was also an earnest advocate of the temperance cause and a prominent member of the Masonic Order.

#### JOHN C. MCCARTHY.

John Calaghan McCarthy, an old settler of Hartland Township and one of the self-made men of McHenry County, was born in County Kerry, Ireland, June 24, 1834, son of Calaghan and Ann (Moore) McCarthy. Calaghan McCarthy was a farmer of moderate circumstances and a descendant of the old Irish Gaels. His children were: Florence, who came to America with her family about 1843, and died in Chicago at the advanced age of ninety years; Dennis, who came to America about 1842; John, who died when a child in Ireland; John C., who came to America in 1844; Elizabeth, who married in Ireland Edward Goggin and came to America in 1843 with her family; Bridget, and Mary, who came to America with their mother in 1844.

Calaghan McCarthy, father of the family, died in Ireland in 1836, when about sixty years of age. He was a member of the Catholic church and a hard working man. His sons soon began to emigrate to America, and, in 1844, Mrs. McCarthy joined them with the remainder of the family, John C., Mary and

Bridget. They made the voyage in a sailing vessel and were six weeks on the passage to Quebec. John C. was then a boy between nine and ten years of age. They went directly to Rochester, where the older children had settled and the sons had secured employment with a railroad company. Here the family lived about one and a half years and then moved to Buffalo where John C. attended school for a while. About 1846, Mrs. McCarthy came to Illinois with her son-in-law, Edward Goggin and family, who settled in Hartland Township. Here John C. lived with Edward Goggin's family until he was about twenty years of age, working at farm-work during the summer and in the winter attending the district school. One winter Mr. McCarthy's teacher was M. D. Hoy, who is now a prominent citizen of Woodstock. This was in one of the Alden Township districts, and John C. walked one and a half miles to and from school and did farm chores to pay for his board. At another time he attended a school in Alden Township taught by Sidney Disbrow, and thus gained an elementary education. In 1854, when young McCarthy was twenty years of age, he had about \$200, which he had saved from his earnings, as he had been employed on the farm at three to seven dollars per month for several years. This was in the days of the California gold excitement, and in company with George Burchey and Thomas Quigley, he went to California. They made the journey from New York by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and from San Francisco to the placer gold mines near Weaverville, Trinity County. John J. Murphy was in the same camp. Mr. McCarthy remained there about eight years when, in 1862, he went to the Blue Mountains in Northeastern Oregon, where he mined for gold on the John Day's River. There were thirty-six men in this expedition and they were three months on the trip from the starting place, Waurica, Cal., through a wild, mountainous and unsettled country. This was in the land of the Modoc Indians and to them they were obliged to pay tribute for crossing the country on their trails. The Captain of Mr. McCarthy's company, W. W. Martin, understood the Indian language and engaged an Indian chief and his squaw to pilot them through the wilderness. They passed through the



country afterwards made famous by Captain Jack, the Modoc chieftain, in his attack on the United States Peace Commissioners, which is one of the most desolate regions known to man. Further north they passed into a region owned by another tribe of Indians to whom they were obliged to pay tribute, and where they had a variety of experiences. This country was not only inhabited by savage men, but by savage beasts; both black and brown bear were numerous, the mountain goat was frequently seen on the steep ledges of the mountains, while deer, antelope and other game were plentiful. The party lived on provisions which they packed with them on the backs of horses and mules, consisting principally of flour and bacon, of which they carried a quantity sufficient to last about four months. They began mining gold on John Day's River, but not meeting with success, they moved their camp to the head of the river, where they carried on mining four years. Provisions were very high and Mr. McCarthy often paid as high as \$2.50 for a pound of flour.

In 1866 he went to Umatilla on the Columbia River, which was a very arduous journey. From here he went to Portland, Oregon, where he took a steamer for San Francisco, and sailed to New York from the latter place. He had been absent from home between twelve and thirteen years, during which time he encountered many hardships. On his outward journey to the gold-fields his money was exhausted when he reached San Francisco, and he was obliged to work his way up the Sacramento River on a steamer to the mines. At one time he was at Lewiston, the head of navigation on the Columbia River, above Walla Walla. This was the extreme frontier limit. Traveling by land in that country was made by pack-mule trains, from fifty to sixty mules in a train, and each mule would be loaded with about 350 pounds of baggage, for which the charges were fifty cents per pound. At Walla Walla every mercantile house kept a rope with a noose in it in readiness for horse-thieves, who were very numerous.

After his return to Hartland Township in 1868, Mr. McCarthy bought the Edward Goggin farm consisting of 240 acres. He married July 18, 1872, Mary Harter, born in Alsace,

France, August 13, 1845, the daughter of Francis and Louisa (Detterer) Harter. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy settled on the farm, which then had a log house and rude farm buildings on it. Mr. McCarthy has cleared at least one-third of the farm, and has erected a good frame residence and a substantial barn. The farm is well stocked and is one of the finest estates in Hartland Township. Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy are the parents of Francis Dennis, Mary Louisa, Elizabeth Ann and Charles Edward. The family are members of the Catholic church. Mr. McCarthy, like most true sons of the Gael, has a strong love of liberty and is a firm believer in the rights of the common people. He is a staunch Democrat, believing in the principles advocated by Jefferson and Jackson. He is a friend of progress and education, and has been School Director eight years. When Mr. McCarthy first came to Hartland Township it was almost a wilderness, and he has been one of the main factors in its improvement. He has prospered well, having been a thrifty and industrious man. He has the liberal, whole-souled disposition of the Irish Celt, and being careful and conscientious in the discharge of every duty, he is possessed of a high degree of honor and integrity. One of Mr. McCarthy's sons, Charles Edward, served as a soldier in the Spanish-American War in Company G, Woodstock Guards, and was stationed in Porto Rico.

Francis Anthony Harter, father of Mrs. McCarthy, was born in Alsace about 1815. He was a baker by trade, and married in Alsace, where all of his children, Eugene, Augusta, Antoinette and Mary Ann, were born. Mr. Harter came to America and served as a soldier in the Mexican War. He sent for his family in 1850 and settled on a farm in Seneca Township. He was also a soldier in the Civil War, serving as a private in the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and re-enlisted as a veteran. He was in Andersonville prison several months. After the war, in 1865, he returned to McHenry County, and settled in Harvard. He afterwards moved to Albany, N. Y., and from there started for California, and was never afterwards heard from. His son Eugene was a soldier in the Civil War and was killed at the battle of Fair Oaks.



**PATRICK McCABE.**

This pioneer of the Celtic race is the oldest man now living in Hartland Township, and, perhaps, in McHenry County. He is one of the original Irish pioneers who settled in Hartland Township on Government land. Those remaining who patented land from the Government can be counted on the fingers of one hand. He was born in March, 1808, in the town of Dunraven, Parish of Lurgan, County Cavan, Ireland, son of Terrence and Mary (Tierney) McCabe.

Terrence McCabe was the son of Patrick McCabe, who once owned the land where the town of Dunraven now stands. He was a farmer and rented his farm on the long lease, or three lives, system, the lease extending over ninety-one years, except in the case of the death of one of the proprietors, when it was good for thirty-one years. This plan made a family permanent, and, when the rent was moderate, was a very good system. The children of Terrence and Mary McCabe were: John, Patrick, Michael, Kate, Bridget and Mary. Mr. McCabe and his wife died in Ireland, both having reached an advanced age. They were members of the Catholic church. One of the sons, Michael McCabe, came to America and settled in Hartland Township, but later moved to Iowa, where he reared a family of five children.

Patrick McCabe, subject of this sketch, received a better education than most sons of Erin, as he had the advantage of attending school in a near-by town. He remained on his father's farm until twenty-one years of age, when he came to America, sailing from Dublin, May 2, 1832, in the good ship "Hebron" of Liverpool, and was four weeks and three days on the voyage to Quebec, where he arrived in June. He came directly to New York State, by way of Lake Champlain, and worked for five years in the United States foundry at West Point, on the Hudson, where he frequently saw General Scott. He came to Chicago in 1836 or '37 and lived there about five years. He was steward at the Tremont House, having been promoted to that position from that of hostler. These were in the good old days of pioneer Chicago, when the Tremont House was the headquarters of the Democratic party and the leading hotel in

Chicago. Stephen A. Douglas and his wife occupied rooms in this hotel, and Mr. McCabe was personally acquainted with the "Little Giant" and heard him make many speeches. John Wentworth, known as "Long John," the noted and able editor of the "Chicago Democrat," was a frequent visitor at the hotel and was a vigorous politician of the rough and ready type. Mr. McCabe was also acquainted with Kinzie, the pioneer; Mark Beaubien and his wife, the old French inn-keepers, and Captain Naper, for whom Naperville was named. Tradition says that, in early times in some Indian campaign, Captain Naper crossed McHenry County with his men, and during the march one of the commissary wagons mired in a creek. Among the goods was a ten-gallon keg of whisky and one of the soldiers attempted to get a drink, saying: "I will have a nip or sink." Thereafter the creek was known as "Nippersink."

Mr. McCabe came to Hartland Township about 1840 and selected land, consisting of 240 acres, which he entered in 1841. He afterwards bought eighty acres more of the General Government. His brother Michael had settled in the township a short time before, as also had Andrew and Neill Donnelly. Mr. McCabe's land was partly prairie and partly timber, and he settled on it in 1842. He was then a single man and hauled lumber from Chicago for a small frame house, which is still standing. Mr. McCabe improved his land and bought 120 acres of Andrew Hood, and ninety-five acres of a Mr. Creighead and together, with other purchases, he accumulated a fine farming property. He has given his sons Terrence and Michael 120 acres each, but still retains 250 acres, which is one of the best farming properties in Hartland Township. These broad acres extend one mile from the old Marengo and Geneva road to the Woodstock and Harvard road.

In Hartland Township, May 1, 1856, Mr. McCabe married Ann McConnell, born in the town of Macken, County Fermanagh, Ireland, July, 1825, daughter of Michael and Bridget (McGee) McConnell. Mr. and Mrs. McCabe have the following children: Mary Anne, Terrence, Katie, Michael, Bridget, Maggie, Susan and Patrick H. All this family are members of the Catholic church of which Mr. and Mrs.

McCabe have always been liberal supporters.

There were few families in Hartland Township when Mr. McCabe first settled there, the farms were new and unimproved and the people lived in log houses. There were no buildings in Woodstock and he went to market at Geneva and afterwards to Richmond. When he first settled on his farm there were several Indian graves on the place, which were covered with large stones of excellent quality as wide and long as the graves. Mr. and Mrs. McCabe both worked hard, and built up one of the best farming properties in the county. Mr. McCabe rode on the second railroad built in the United States, which was between Albany and Buffalo. In his younger days he well remembers seeing the great hero of New Orleans, General Jackson. He has always voted the straight Democratic ticket, except on one occasion, when he voted for General Scott, a Whig candidate, on account of his acquaintance with him at West Point. He was a prominent man in his township in early times, but never sought office, having at all times, all he could do to attend to the duties on his farm. He is a man of integrity and strong common sense, and at the great age of ninety-five, retains his memory and faculties to a wonderful degree. He is a great reader of the newspapers and can read fine print without glasses. He recently read an article in the "McHenry County Democrat" on the origin of the "Irish Celt," and pronounced it correct so far as his knowledge of the subject extended.

Mr. and Mrs. McCabe's children are well educated, the sons are all engaged in farming and have settled around the old homestead and their houses are connected with each other by telephone.

Michael McConnell, the father of Mrs. McCabe, was a farmer living on long-leased land in Ireland. He died in Ireland a middle-aged man. His children were Clarence, Patrick, James, Susan and Mary. All of this family came to America. In 1851, when Mrs. McCabe was seventeen years of age, she came to America with her brother James, sailing from Dundalk, Ireland, for New York, and they were seven weeks on the passage. She came to Chicago where she lived four years and then came to Hartland Township, where her brother, Terrence, was settled.

Mr. McCabe was in Chicago when the Government pier was built and recalls the early issues of the old "Chicago Democrat." The paper was printed only on one side, being blank on the other.

#### ANDREW T. MCMILLAN.

Andrew Thomas McMillan, farmer and prominent citizen of Nunda Township, McHenry County, Ill., was born on the old McMillan homestead in Nunda Township, Feb. 5, 1845, the son of Samuel and Jane Ann (Wilson) McMillan, who were pioneer settlers of Northern Illinois. Samuel McMillan, the father, was of Scotch ancestry, the son of Thomas and Sarah (Humphrey) McMillan, who had children named John, Benjamin, James, Andrew, Ebenezer, Samuel, Elizabeth, Margaret and Mary. Samuel McMillan, of this family, was born at Princeton, N. Y., Nov. 7, 1815. About 1837, at the age of twenty-two years, he came to Plainfield, Will County, Ill., but two years later located in McHenry County. Here, on Nov. 28, 1843, in Nunda Township, he was married to Jane Ann Wilson, who was born in Princeton, N. Y., July 19, 1823, the daughter of Andrew and Ann Jane (Fall) Wilson. After his marriage in the spring of 1844, he settled on a tract of eighty acres of Government land, which he entered and to which he made additions until he was the owner of 200 acres, becoming a successful and well-to-do farmer. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, and in politics a Republican. His children were: Eliza Ann, born Nov. 12, 1848; John Henry, born May 28, 1851; Sarah Jane, born Oct. 9, 1853. Mr. McMillan died in 1885, at the age of about seventy years, but his wife is still living on the old homestead near Terra Cotta, in Nunda Township.

Andrew Thomas McMillan received the usual common-school education while working on the farm during the summer months. December 24, 1867, he was married at Crystal Lake, McHenry County, to Marion A. Wicker, who was born in Vermont on the border of Lake Champlain, near Whitehall, N. Y., March 27, 1850, the daughter of Benijah and Angeline (Wilson) Wicker. Mrs. Wicker was the daughter of Nathaniel Willson, of Sharon, Vt., was a graduate of Castleton Seminary, and



for a number of years a successful teacher. Both parents belonged to old American families, Benijah Wicker being the son of Dr. Nathaniel Wicker, who served in the War of the American Revolution and was afterwards a prominent physician in Vermont. Benijah Wicker was a soldier of the War of 1812 and, about 1853, removed with his family to Illinois, settling six miles south of Belvidere, in Boone County. Nine years later (1862) he removed to Nunda Township, McHenry County, where he bought an improved farm of 225 acres, and where in January, 1863—less than a year after his removal—he died. In religious belief he was a Universalist and in politics a Democrat, but voted for Abraham Lincoln for President in 1860 on the ground of opposition to the further extension of slavery. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Benijah Wicker were: Helen, Cora, Addie, and Benijah, Jr.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew T. McMillan settled on the McMillan homestead in Nunda Township, where they remained twenty-four years when, in 1891, they removed to their present location in the same township. He here bought a farm consisting of sixty-nine acres, upon which he erected all the farm buildings. He also retains his interest in the old homestead. The children of Andrew T. McMillan and wife are: Emma W., born Oct. 1, 1869; Bennie, born Dec. 26, 1873, died Jan. 7, 1878, aged four years; Charles, born Dec. 26, 1876, died aged about eleven years; Henry born March 21, 1882; Frank, born May 27, 1885; Ray, born May 18, 1888; Earl, born April 6, 1891.

Emma W. McMillan married Henry Shales, of Terra Cotta, and they have one son named Arthur.

In political opinions Mr. McMillan is a Republican, and has served one year as Collector of Taxes for Nunda Township. He and his wife are held in high esteem in the community where they maintain an attractive home and have given their children good common-school educations.

Andrew Wilson, the maternal grandfather of Andrew T. McMillan, was a native of Ireland, but is believed to have been of mixed Scotch and Irish blood. He was a Presbyterian in religious belief. Three of his sons were born in Ireland, viz.: Thomas, John and Andrew;

the others—James, Alexander, David, William, Mariah, Matilda and Jane Ann—being born after the removal to America. On his removal to the United States, Andrew Wilson first settled at Schenectady, N. Y., where he carried on his trade as a carpenter and joiner, but, in 1836 coming west, located at Deer Grove, Cook County, Ill., and there spent the remainder of his life. He was thus one of the pioneers of Cook County, where he was a substantial farmer.

#### HENRY MAGOON.

Henry Magoon, Terra Cotta, Ill., a substantial and respected citizen of Nunda Township, McHenry County, is of sterling Scotch descent. His father, Simeon Magoon, was born in Canada, near Niagara Falls, July 24, 1813, and on April 4, 1835, married at Chagrin Falls, near Cleveland, Ohio, Tryphena Abbott, who was born Nov. 19, 1812, the daughter of Ebenezer and Nicy Abbott. In 1844 Simeon Magoon came to McHenry County, Ill., and bought a small farm in Greenwood Township. Some years afterward he removed to Wisconsin, but two years later returned to McHenry County, where he resided until his death, which occurred at the venerable age of eighty-two years. Simeon Magoon was a very religious man, devoting much of his life to inculcating the principles of Methodism, and was an exhorter and class-leader in that denomination. He also assisted in building several Methodist churches. His children, who were born on following dates, were: Permelia, Feb. 24, 1838; Henry, Feb. 13, 1839; David, May 4, 1842; Betsy, Oct. 14, 1847; Aurilla, August 20, 1849; Julia Ann, June 13, 1852. (For sketch of the Abbott family, see biography of Mark Hickox in this volume.)

Henry Magoon, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 13, 1838, and was six years old when he came with his father to McHenry County. He received the limited common-school education afforded by the district schools of his day, and at sixteen years of age began to work out at farm-labor. On Sept. 21, 1861, he married in Greenwood, Ill., Louisa Salisbury, who was born at Green, Chenango County, N. Y., Nov. 23, 1840, the daughter of Charles and Elsie (Marvin) Salisbury.





*Joseph S. Mayon M.D.*





Annie Goodrich Maxon





After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Magoon settled in Greenwood, but several years later (about 1868) bought 100 acres of land in Greenwood Township, where they lived for nearly ten years and then removed to Nunda Township. In 1879 they purchased their present homestead then consisting of 100 acres of slightly improved land., to which, by industrious habits and careful management, they have made subsequent additions until they now own 132½ acres of excellent farming land. They have greatly improved their dwelling house and farm buildings, and their home now presents every appearance of thrift, comfort and happiness. Mr. and Mrs. Magoon are the parents of two children, who were born in Greenwood Township: Ella Marvin, born Feb. 1, 1864, and Elmer, born May 14, 1865. In political belief Mr. Magoon is a Republican, and has served his fellow-townsmen as Road Commissioner for four years.

The Salisbury family is of colonial New England stock. Hale Salisbury, the grandfather of Mrs. Magoon, was born in Brattleboro, Vt., and followed the occupation of a farmer. His children were named Hannah, Betsy, Rachael, Melinda, Roswell, Hale, Alva, Emri and Charles. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and in pioneer days removed to Chenango County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm from the wilderness and became a substantial citizen. He lived to be more than eighty years of age and died on his homestead in New York State; his wife dying at about the same age.

Charles Salisbury, father of Mrs. Henry Magoon, was born in Brattleboro, Vt., Feb. 13, 1805, and in boyhood came with his parents to New York State. When about twenty-four years of age, he removed with his married sister, Betsy, and her family to Richland County, Ohio, where, on May 29, 1830, he married Elsie Marvin. They resided in Richland County, Ohio, the first ten years of their married life, and then moved to New York State, where Mr. Salisbury purchased a 140-acre farm in Green Township, Green County, and resided there for fifteen years. In 1845, during their residence in Green County, a notable religious revival occurred, in which many converts were secured and united with the Baptist church. In 1855 Mr. Salisbury moved with his

family to Greenwood, Ill., and for the remainder of his life resided most of the time in McHenry County. His death occurred Feb. 4, 1890, in Nunda, where he had resided the last ten years of his life. Had he lived until May 9, following, he would have celebrated his sixtieth wedding anniversary.

Mr. Salisbury was a man of industrious habits and owned a good 160-acre farm in Greenwood Township. In 1887 he went to Buchanan County, Iowa, where he purchased a house and lot and intended to make his home there, but returned to McHenry County. The children of Charles and Elsie (Marvin) Salisbury were born on the following dates: William C., June 12, 1832; Roswell, March 6, 1834; Adelia A., June 18, 1836; Charlotte A., May 6, 1838; Louisa M., Nov. 12, 1840; Hale L., Dec. 21, 1842; Maranda M., June 21, 1847; Helen M., July 13, 1849; Emma A., March 22, 1852.

Mrs. Charles Salisbury (nee Elsie Marvin) was born in Connecticut, Sept. 13, 1810, the daughter of Isaac and Hannah (Hoit) Marvin. Both the Marvins and the Hoits were of Connecticut Puritan stock. Isaac Marvin moved to Richland County, Ohio, in the pioneer days of that State and became a successful farmer. Both he and his wife died on their farm in Richland County, Ohio, at a venerable age.

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#### DR. JOSEPH S. MAXON.

Dr. Joseph S. Maxon, leading physician of Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., was born at Adams, Jefferson County, N. Y., Nov. 23, 1838, the son of Asa L. and Julia A. (Read) Maxon, his father being of English and his mother of Scotch descent. The name was originally spelled Maxson, the present spelling being adopted by Dr. Maxon's father. Richard Maxson, the first and common ancestor of the American branch of the family, was a blacksmith by trade, a member of the Baptist church in Boston in 1634, and was employed in a shop belonging to James Everill. In 1639 he went to Portsmouth, R. I., near Newport, and there shared in the distribution of lands to the colonists of that region. There is a legend in the family that he was killed in an Indian raid about 1640, but this is doubtful, as there is evidence that he was alive in 1641. In 1644

his wife, Goodwife Maxson, deeded the land to another party, indicating at this time he was deceased. His son, John Maxson, born in 1639, was next in lineal descent, and he and his wife were buried at Westerly, R. I. Several of the family of the third and fourth generations took part in the Revolutionary War—Benjamin and Stephen Maxson being of the former, and Col. Jesse Maxson (son of David) who was, for a time an Aid on the staff of General Washington and was killed in the battle of Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781, being of the fourth generation.

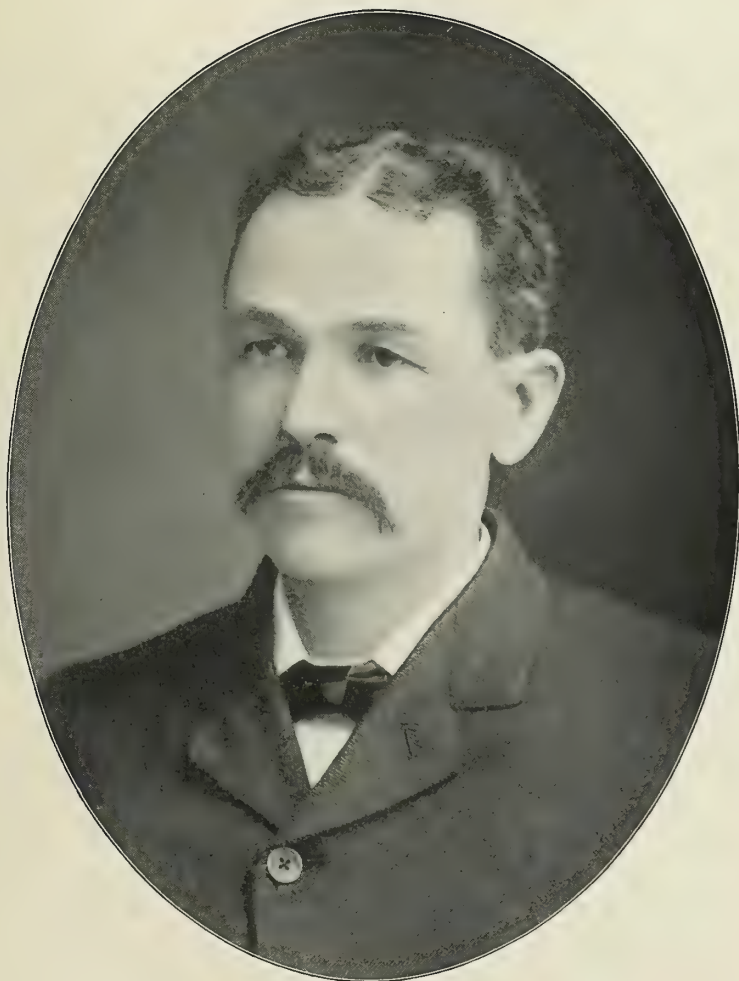
John Maxson, already mentioned, born in 1639, and died in 1720, married Mary Moshier, and they had children: John, born 1666, died in 1747; Dorothy, married Elder Joseph Clark; Joseph, born 1672, died 1750; Mary, married Daniel Lewis; Jonathan, born 1680, died 1732; Hannah, married Hubbard Burdick. John Maxson of this family married Judith Clark, and they had children: Judith, born Sept. 23, 1689, married Samuel Burdick; Mary, born Oct. 26, 1691, died March 16, 1692; Bethiah, born July 31, 1693, married Joseph Maxson; Elizabeth, born Nov. 7, 1695, married John Maxson; John, born April 21, 1701, married Thankful Randall; Dorothy, born Oct. 20, 1703; Susan, born Oct. 19, 1706, married Zaccheus Reynolds; Joseph, born December, 1709, died July, 1710; Avis, born Dec. 27, 1712, married a Miss Burdick. John and his wife, Thankful Randall, latter born Nov. 26, 1724, had children: John, born August 27, 1725; Matthew, born April 27, 1727, died Feb. 28, 1791; David, born July 24, 1729; Joseph, born March 23, 1731; Benjamin, born Feb. 21, 1733; Stephen, born May 3, 1735; Thankful, born July 16, 1737; David, born July 24, 1729; Joseph, born March 23, 1731; Benjamin, born Feb. 21, 1733; Stephen, born May 3, 1735; Thankful, born July 16, 1737; David, born Sept. 25, 1739; Joel, born May 28, 1742; Ellinor, born Jan. 24, 1749. David of this family married Abigail Greenman and they had children: Silas, born Dec. 29, 1750; Asa, born March 6, 1752, married Lois Stillman; Elizabeth, born July 14, 1754; Paul, born August 2, 1757; Chloe, born Oct. 15, 1759; Wealthy, born March, 1762, married Wait Stillman; Sarah, born Dec. 23, 1763, married George Stillman; David, born August 29, 1766, married Sarah Greenman; Ellen and Abby.

Asa of this family was twice married, first to Lois Stillman and second to Mary Potter, widow of George Potter, but had no children by his second marriage. His children by his first wife, Lois Stillman, were: Asa, born July 1, 1776, married Polly Lewis and, as his second wife, Sarah Read; Lois, born August 25, 1778; Mary (Polly), born July 14, 1781, married Edwin Whitford; David, born Sept. 27, 1788, married Esther Peckham and Susan (Peckham) Saunders; Wealthy, born August 18, 1790, married Dr. Ebenezer Robinson; Joseph Stillman, born August 3, 1797, married Elizabeth Vars; Rebecca; Amelia, married Dr. Robert Collins; Thankful, married Dr. Robinson, husband of her deceased sister Wealthy. Asa of this family married his first wife, Polly Lewis, May 29, 1797, and his second wife, Sarah Read (a widow), Jan. 15, 1818. His children by his first wife were: Polly, married Joshua Lamb; Lois, married a Mr. Wait; Asa L., born May 22, 1802; Sophie, married Dennis Baxter; Harvey, married Emeline Lewis; and by his second: Lewis P., married Julia Burdick; Darwin D., married Emeline L. Read. Asa L., of the first group of children married Julia Ann Read, July 9, 1822, and they had children: Edgar R., born Oct. 17, 1823, married Emily Rogers; Henry J., born Feb. 10, 1826, married Phebe Howland; Charlotte, born Sept. 8, 1829, married John Wilson; Nathan, born Nov. 23, 1831, died Sept. 5, 1850; Adalia, born March 4, 1834, died Sept. 26, 1854; Francis L., born March 23, 1836, married Mary Colburn; Joseph Stillman, born Nov. 23, 1838, married Mary Guernsey and, as his second wife, Anna Goodrich; Dwight, born May 21, 1840, died Sept. 4, 1854; Charlie, born June, 1843, died Nov. 27, 1854.

Asa Maxson, the great-grandfather of Dr. Joseph S., was a pioneer settler in Jefferson County, N. Y., where he lived to the age of ninety-seven years. According to tradition he was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and served on board a vessel on Long Island Sound.

Asa Maxson (2), grand-father of Dr. Joseph S., was a lumberman at Petersburg, N. Y., a village in Rensselaer County, about eighteen miles from Troy. His marriage, first to Polly Lewis, and second to Mrs. Sarah Read (nee Dudley), has been given in the preceeding





*A. C. Manley,*



genealogical record. Mr. Maxson died in Rensselaer County, N. Y., at a venerable age.

Asa L. Maxon, father of Dr. Joseph S. Maxon, was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., and was a farmer by occupation. As already stated he was the first to adopt the present spelling of the name. About 1853-4 Mr. Maxon removed to Big Foot Prairie, Walworth County, Wis., where he settled on 150 acres of land upon which he made good improvements and erected substantial farm buildings. He was a prominent man in his community, and while a resident of New York filled the office of United States Revenue Collector, receiving his appointment under President Taylor's administration.

Dr. Joseph S. Maxon, the immediate subject of this sketch, was about thirteen years of age when he came with his parents to Wisconsin. In his boyhood he received a common-school education and later attended Walworth Academy and also an academy in Dane County, Wis., after which he attended a course of lectures at the Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, Chicago, where he graduated in 1874. In early manhood he engaged in teaching, his first experience being one year at the old Walworth Academy in 1860, and for five years thereafter he taught in the district schools of Walworth County, Wis., and in McHenry County, Ill. His first preceptor on beginning the study of medicine was Dr. Edwin Burdick and, later, he studied with Dr. John A. Donald of Walworth. He remained at the latter place until 1891, when he removed to Morgan Park, Ill., and two years later came to Harvard, McHenry County, where he has since resided and followed his profession, in the meantime establishing the reputation of being a skillful physician as well as building up a lucrative and successful practice.

June 21, 1875, Dr. Maxon was married at Walworth, Wis., to Annah Goodrich, who was born in Rock County, Wis., Feb. 24, 1856, the daughter of William Anson and Rebecca (Crandall) Goodrich. The Goodrich family is of Colonial Puritan and New England stock. Uriah Goodrich, the father of William A., was a native of Berkshire County, Mass., where he married Mary Carpenter, and there his son William A. was born in 1815. He received a

common-school education, was a farmer by occupation and married in Allegany County, N. Y., April 11, 1819, Rebecca A. Crandall, daughter of Henry and Lucinda Crandall. Her father, Henry Crandall, moved from Connecticut to Allegany County, N. Y., and later became a pioneer settler at Milton, Wis., where he located on new land which he improved, and on which he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of ninety-seven years. He was a member of the Baptist church, in which he held the office of deacon. His children were: Silas, Amos, Horace Clark, John, Rebecca, Harriet, Lucinda. William A. Goodrich settled in Michigan after his marriage to Miss Crandall, but soon after moved to Milton, Wis., where he bought a farm. In 1861 he removed to Fayette County, Ill., and there bought a large farm on which he died in 1867, and his wife in 1871. He was a Republican in politics, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist church. Their children were: Mary, Sarah, Emogene, Hattie, Annah G., Lillon and Jana. Mrs. Maxon was only about ten years old at the time of her father's death and fifteen when her mother died. She received her education chiefly in the high school at Farina, Ill.

Dr. and Mrs. Maxon have one son, Reginald G. The Doctor is a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy, the Masonic Order and Knights Templar. In political opinions he is a stanch Republican, was elected a member of the Wisconsin Legislature in 1891-2, and in 1901 was elected Coroner of McHenry County.

#### ALBERT C. MANLEY.

Captain John Manley, father of Thomas Manley, born at Torbay, England, in 1734, was bred a sailor in the maritime service, but early became a resident of Marblehead, Mass. At the opening of the Revolutionary War he was placed by Washington in command of the schooner Lee, in which he did good service, seizing several vessels, one of which was of great value, and in 1776 he received a regular commission from Congress. His first capture on board the Hancock, his new command, was the man-of-war Fox, but owing to the cowardly conduct on the part of Captain McNeil, commander of his consort, the Hector, Cap-



tain Manley's vessel was taken by the British man-of-war, *Rainbow*, on July 8, 1777. He was tried for his conduct in this affair and honorably acquitted. The last naval combat of the war was between the *Hague*, Captain Manley, and four British men-of-war, the former having been driven on a sand-bank at Guadeloupe. Here for three days Manley defended himself against the tremendous odds and finally effected his escape. After the war his home was at Boston, Mass., where he died. Captain John Manley was the father of three sons and one daughter. The sons were John, Thomas and William. The daughter's name is forgotten.

Captain Thomas Manley, of the Massachusetts militia, was a renowned story-teller. He was born in Marblehead, Mass., and, with his mother and brother William, when quite young, emigrated to Vermont, then almost a wilderness, taking up Government land of several hundred acres in Rutland County in the towns of Pittsford and Chittenden. His first wife was a Miss Leonard. She lived but a few years after marriage, leaving him a daughter. He soon married again to Mary Jackson, daughter of Jonathan Jackson of Boston, Mass., who died, leaving him four sons and four daughters: Arthusa, Mary, Eliza and Nancy (daughters), and Joel, Benjamin, Thomas and Milton F. (sons). His third wife was Sarah Bond of Thetford, Vt., and they had four children, one son and three daughters: William B., Esther, Olive and Ellen. His third wife survived him many years. For a long time his nearest market was Boston, Mass. All agricultural products were carried to market on wagons, while fat sheep, cattle and horses were driven on foot. Captain Thomas Manley was a member of the State Legislature and a substantial citizen.

Milton Farwell Manley, born in Chittenden, Rutland County, Vt., Oct. 6, 1819, was the youngest child of Thomas and Mary (Jackson) Manley. When but a small boy one Sunday morning, while watching the cattle feed and keeping them out of the corn, he was surprised by the appearance of an old bear and her two cubs, and it is needless to say his short legs made quick time. The alarm being given a bear-hunt was the result and all three killed. He received a common-school educa-

tion, later bought the old Manley homestead in Vermont and, on Jan. 28, 1856, married Mary Jane Rice of Waterbury, Vt. He was a man of much prominence, served two terms as Representative in the State Legislature at Montpelier; was also for years a Justice of the Peace and leader of the Congregationalist church choir. He made sheep and horses leaders in his stock-breeding, and paid for the old homestead which he sold nine years later, when in June, 1865, he emigrated to Hebron, McHenry County, Ill., where he purchased 230 acres of land which he improved and made a good farm. Mrs. Mary Jane (Rice) Manley was born Feb. 10, 1833, in Waterbury, Mass. Mr. Manley was a man of good habits, good judgment and a good citizen. He died Nov. 12, 1880. To himself and wife were born seven children:

Albert Carlton Manley, subject of this sketch, born at Chittenden, Rutland County, Vt., Sept. 6, 1858.

Abby Lillian Manley, born Nov. 5, 1859, married C. A. Stone, Oct. 19, 1880.

Milton Rice Manley, born Oct. 21, 1862, died March 30, 1897.

Ella Gertrude Manley, born Dec. 12, 1863, married William Buchanan, Nov. 24, 1892.

Thomas Montgomery Manley, born at Hebron, Ill., Aug. 5, 1865, married Sept. 12, 1894, to Helen Damon.

Mary Jackson Manley, born at Hebron, Ill. May 26, 1868, married C. H. Prouty, Sept. 12, 1894.

Edward Blanchard Manley, born at Hebron, Ill., Nov. 16, 1874, married May Bell Tanner, Dec. 4, 1891.

Albert C. Manley, Harvard, Ill., senior member of the firm of 3 Manley Brothers, is one of the practical and enterprising business men of McHenry County. Mr. Manley is descended from sterling English stock, representatives of the American branch of the family being among the early settlers of Vermont and Massachusetts.

Albert C. Manley was born in Chittenden, Rutland County, Vt., Sept. 6, 1858, and was about six years of age in 1865 when brought by his parents to McHenry County, Ill. Here, while growing up on the farm, he received the usual common-school education of that locality, remaining at home until twenty-five years of



*Mrs. A. C. Stanley*





age, in the meantime having charge of the farm for two years. Coming to Harvard in 1884 he entered into the employment of Hunt & Helm, hardware merchants, remaining five years when, in 1888, he bought a half-interest in the concern, the firm taking the name of Hunt, Helm & Manley. The interest of Mr. Helm was next bought out and Thomas M. Manley was admitted to the firm, changing the name to Manley Bros. & Co., Mr. Hunt being the silent member, followed two years later by the retirement of Mr. Hunt, when C. A. Stone entered into the partnership, the firm name becoming Manley Bros. & Stone. Four years later Mr. Stone withdrew from the partnership, his place being taken by Edward E., the younger brother of the Manley family, when the firm took on its present name of "3 Manley Brothers."

The firm has done a constantly increasing business for years, besides hardware, dealing in a large variety of machinery, hot-water and hot-air heating apparatus, plumbing of all kinds, and also making a specialty of gasoline engines and plants for farmers for the purpose of driving corn huskers, grinding feed for stock, pumping water, etc. They have recently added to the large variety of machinery already sold by them, automobiles, purchasing the first gasoline automobile in McHenry County. Within a period of thirty days their sales of these machines amounted to nine, a large number for a rural district of the State. To their other branches of business they have also added a furniture and undertaking department. Taking into account all their departments, they carry on one of the most extensive lines of business in McHenry County.

Mr. Albert C. Manley, was united in marriage, in Hebron, McHenry County, August 26, 1885, to Josephine A. Rowe, daughter of Aaron and Olive (Carney) Rowe, and they are parents of the following named children: Edward Aaron, born April 28, 1887; Olive Mary, born April 8, 1891; and Otis Rowe, born Oct. 26, 1893. In political faith Mr. Manley is a Republican, and fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias, a member of the Knights of the Globe and of the Order of Modern Woodmen. He is also a member of the Methodist church, in which he holds the offices of trustee and stew-

ard. By business energy and enterprise he has won a position in the front rank of McHenry County business men. Besides his other business interests, he is the proprietor of much valuable real estate in Harvard. In company with his father-in-law, Mr. Aaron Rowe of Hebron, he is at present (1903) engaged in erecting a double-front business block in Harvard, three stories in height above the basement, with pressed-brick front. The building will be steam-heated with modern conveniences and, in every respect, up-to-date. The Harvard Postoffice will occupy a part of the first floor and will be equipped with modern fixtures, and will be one of the most complete offices of its kind in Northern Illinois outside of the cities furnished with Government buildings. The remainder of the building will be occupied by the 3 Manley Brothers in carrying on their large business.

Joel G. Rice, the father of Mrs. Milton F. Manley, was born in Waterbury, Washington County, Vt. He was a farmer. His father, George Gardner Rice, was a pioneer of Waterbury, and cleared his farm from the woods. He was accidentally killed. His father was a pioneer of New Hampshire and was accidentally killed while burning a log-heap in the early settlement of the country. The family were of English Puritan stock and among the early colonial settlers of New England. George Gardner Rice married Phebe Atkins, also of English Puritan descent. Joel C. Rice married Amantha Palmer Montgomery, born in Waterbury, Vt. They were the parents of Fannie L., Mary J., Hanna M., Phebe G., Sarah A., Amantha M., and a son who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Rice were members of the Methodist church and respected citizens.

Amantha P. Montgomery, the mother of Mrs. Milton F. Manley, was the daughter of Thomas and Lucy (Blanchard) Montgomery. The Montgomerys were of Scotch ancestry and the Blanchards of English stock. James Montgomery, father of Thomas, married Molly Knox, daughter of John Knox, the great Scottish reformer, who was born in Haddington (called Gifford Gate), Scotland, where a small field goes by the name of Knox's Croft. Thomas Montgomery was a physician; his son John was a Captain of the home militia; his brother John was a Captain in the Revolution,

and his cousin Gen. Richard Montgomery—both of New York. Richard Montgomery was born in 1736, was at the siege of Louisburg, in the expedition against Havana and Martinique, and, in the invasion of Canada, captured Chambly, St. John's and Montreal, but fell in the first volley before Quebec, with two of his aids, Dec. 31, 1775. There is a shaft in New York City to his memory, and the place where he fell also bears a mark of distinction.

Josephine Rowe Manley, wife of A. C. Manley, was born in Hebron, Ill., Oct. 29, 1862; her father with his parents came to Hebron in May, 1850, and resides there at present. Aaron Rowe and Olive Carney, her parents, were married Nov. 14, 1860. Aaron Rowe was born in DeWitt, N. Y., April 18, 1841; Olive (Carney) Rowe was born at Hickory Creek, Ill., May 8, 1841. Mrs. A. C. Manley is their only child.

Hiram Rowe, grandfather of Mrs. A. C. Manley, was born at Bethlehem, N. Y., Feb. 11, 1811; Susan Furbeck, her grandmother, was born at New Scotland, N. Y., Sept. 4, 1817, and were married at Collamer, N. Y., Sept. 3, 1835. They have been faithful to the Methodist Episcopal church for many years. Hiram Rowe joined the church on March 18, 1831—at this date (Sept. 10, 1903) they are alive and keeping house, and have just passed their sixty-eighth wedding anniversary. Olive Rowe's parents were married on Dec. 20, 1838; Reuel Carney was born in Pennsylvania, Nov. 15, 1813, and died at Hebron, Ill., April 21, 1868. His wife, Martha (Phillips) Carney, was born in Plymouth, N. Y., Oct. 25, 1819, and died at Hebron, Ill., May 9, 1886. She came to Will County, Ill., in 1835. Hiram and Susan Rowe are the parents of thirteen children; four sons and five daughters are now living. Reuel and Martha Carney were the parents of nine children, two daughters and one son are still living.

#### CAPTAIN JAMES NISH.

Captain Nish is one of McHenry County's oldest and most highly esteemed citizens, and a distinguished veteran of the Civil War. The original orthography of the surname was McNish, and the family is Scotch. Nathaniel McNish, the father of Captain James, was a

farmer of Wigtonshire, Scotland, and died near Newton Stuart, in that country, at the age of seventy-six. He married Jean McGeoch, and their eight children were named Margaret, William, Alexander, Nathaniel, Isabella, James, David and John. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, and a man who was considered well-to-do.

His son James has changed the spelling of the patronymic by abbreviating it to Nish. He (James) was born three miles west of Newton Stuart, Scotland, on May 5, 1824. He attended the public school, but the greater part of his earlier education was obtained at home, his studies being pursued by the clear, bright light of a cannel-coal fire. At the age of sixteen, he opened a grocery, with capital advanced by his father, but his youth and lack of business experience militated against his success, and, three years later he abandoned the enterprise and resumed work upon his father's farm. On reaching his majority he became a traveling salesman for a tea merchant of Gloucester, England. This life he followed for three years, when a severe sprain of an ankle compelled his return home, where he was confined for eighteen months. On recovering, he went to Glasgow, where for a time, he was employed in the commission business. In 1851 he embarked on a sailing vessel at Liverpool for New York, where he landed in May after a passage of nine weeks. His first three months in America were spent in Auburn, N. Y., whence he went to Peoria, Ill., where he served in a clerical position in a lumber yard. In 1853 he removed to Chicago, where he took charge of two lumber yards until the spring of 1856, when he changed his residence to Cary Station, McHenry County, and there he opened a general store in a building which he had purchased the year previous. This business he still carries on, his son being associated with him in its management. Through his efforts a postoffice was established at Cary Station during the administration of President Pierce, and for thirty years Mr. Nish was connected with its management, either as postmaster or deputy, and holds the first named office at the present time.

On August 9, 1862, Mr. Nish was commissioned to raise a company for the volunteer service in Algonquin Township, and on Sept.



4, following, he received his commission as Captain of Company I, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the sieges of Vicksburg and Natchez, and on Nov. 8, 1863, was detailed for recruiting service at Woodstock. In April, 1864, he started to rejoin his regiment, but on reaching Cairo, Ill., received orders to take command of the convalescent camp at that point. In May he was directed to move this body of 750 men, representing twenty-eight different commands, to Huntsville, Ala. There the able bodied rejoined their respective regiments, the remander being left at Chattanooga. On June 2, 1864, he was individually assigned to service with the Seventeenth Army Corps, being attached to Major Worden's battalion of the Third Brigade, Third Division. The Seventeenth Corps was attached to the left wing of Sherman's army at Big Shanty, and participated in the fighting around Atlanta, as well as at Jonesboro and Lovejoy Station. He rejoined his own company Dec. 2, 1864, at Nashville, and aided in the annihilation of Hood's army on Dec. 15 and 16. From Tennessee his regiment moved into Alabama, and was engaged in the investment and reduction of the Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, at Mobile, April 8 and 9, 1865. For a time he served as commissary of Col. Moon's brigade, with headquarters at Tuskegee, Ala., and on August 17, 1865, received his honorable discharge from the service, his command being mustered-out at Springfield, Ill.

The high moral character and enlightened public spirit of Captain Nish, no less than his keen, native intelligence, have won for him the respect of his fellow citizens, while his gallantry has challenged their admiration and his kindly, generous disposition has awakened their affection. He has held various township and county offices; serving as Village Treasurer in 1863-64, and as President of the Village Board in 1865-66; as Supervisor for ten years, in various terms; and as County Treasurer from 1876 to 1887. While holding the office last named it was necessary for him to pass most of his time at Woodstock, the county seat, and for some two or three years he and

He has been twice married: first in 1854, at the School Board for eight years.

He has been twice married. First in 1854, at LaPorte, Ind., to Carrie Donington, who was

killed by lightning, at Cary in 1857. She left two children, John D. and Elizabeth. The son died at Geneva Lake, Wis., September, 1899, at the age of forty-two; the daughter passed away in her seventeenth year. His second marriage was solemnized on Nov. 12, 1865, his bride being Sarah Ruth Smith, who was born in Algonquin Township, August 23, 1846. Her father was Levi A. C. Smith, and her mother's name before marriage was Rachel Ann Miller. Mrs. Nish is of English lineage, her ancestors being among the early Puritan settlers in the Massachusetts Colony. Her grandfather, Samuel, was the son of a Revolutionary soldier, who was captured by the king's troops, and died on a British prison ship. Samuel Smith was by trade a cooper, as well as a powder maker. He removed from Massachusetts to Cattaraugus County, N. Y., but died in middle life, before he had fully cleared his farm. His children were George, Levi, Heman, Cynthia, Julia and Samuel. Levi was born Oct 12, 1818, and as a boy was noted for his proficiency in mathematics. He was a farmer, and settled in Algonquin Township, in 1841. He was a typical pioneer and a man of substance, owning one hundred and twenty acres, which were well improved, for the times. In 1867 he removed to Kansas, where he died, at the age of sixty-five. He was a deacon in the Baptist church, and long held the office of School Director. Beside his daughter Sarah (Mrs. Nish), he had two sons, George S. and Alexander.

Captain Nish is a prominent member of the Masonic Order, into which he was first initiated at Woodstock, in 1878. He is affiliated with Woodstock Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M., and with Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T.

#### DR. WILLIAM A. NASON.

Dr. William A. Nason is one of the prominent physicians of McHenry County, and for twenty-five years was the only physician in Algonquin. He was born at Hallowell, Me., June 21, 1841, son of William and Mary (Abbot) Wingate Nason.

Bartholomew E. Nason, the great grandfather, was born in Berwick, Me., in 1756, and descended from an English Puritan family of Massachusetts Colony. His son, Bartholomew



Nason, was born in Boston, Mass., July 13, 1784. He was a merchant and ship-owner at Hallowell, Me., and also owned a large estate. He was married three times: first to Hanna Craig, daughter of Elias Craig of Augusta, Me., and their children were: Thomas H., Nathaniel, Elizabeth, Bartholomew, John, Benjamin, Samuel R., Noah, Daniel (deceased), and Daniel (2). Miss Craig had several brothers who served as patriot soldiers in the Revolutionary War. Mr. Nason died at Berwick, Me., aged seventy-four years.

William Nason, father of Dr. William A., was born at Hallowell, Me., May 30, 1814, and received an education including several of the higher branches of sciences and languages, which was considered excellent for his day. He became a merchant and for several years was engaged in the dry goods and grocery business in Hallowell. He moved to Boston in 1845 and engaged in a general business, dealing in lumber, wheat, salt and flour. He removed to Buffalo, N. Y., in 1857, and conducted a general commission business, dealing mostly in grain and flour, and was one of the founders and directors of the first Board of Trade in Chicago and Buffalo. In 1868 he moved to Bloomfield, N. Y., where he was engaged in the lumber business. In his old age he lived with one of his daughters in Alpena, Mich., where he died in 1900, aged eighty-five years. He married in Hallowell, Me., Mary Abbot Wingate, of Newburyport, Mass., of a prominent colonial family connected with the Stephens and Newmans. He and Mrs. Nason were the parents of William A., Edward W., Elizabeth C., Carrie, Theobald and Mary Goodall. In political opinion he was an old line Whig and an original Republican, having voted for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln.

Mrs. Nason attended school taught by the martyred Abolitionist, E. P. Lovejoy, and her grandfather was the owner of a vessel which was captured and confiscated by Algerian pirates, and was never afterwards heard of.

Dr. W. A. Nason was first educated in the Boston public schools, and then fitted for college at Buffalo, and later, in 1864, graduated from the famous old college of Williams, Mass. From there he went to Chicago and studied

medicine in the Chicago Medical College (now the medical department of Northwestern University), graduating in 1866. In 1867 he began the practice of medicine in Chicago, but immediately afterwards received an appointment from the Government, as Assistant Surgeon, being stationed in Virginia one year. Later he returned to Chicago, and came to Algonquin in 1868, where he soon established a successful medical practice and has continued ever since. He has built up an enviable reputation as a skillful physician, a good citizen and a kind-hearted, scientific man. In political opinion the doctor is a staunch Republican, and cast his first vote for the immortal Lincoln when elected for the second term and for this act he feels justly proud. The Dr. is a friend of education and has been President of the School Board of Algonquin for over twenty years. He was President of the Fox River Medical Society one year and was one of the charter members, and one of the founders of that organization. He owned and conducted a drug store in Algonquin for eight years, and enjoyed a prosperous business. He assisted in the organization of the McHenry County Druggists' Association, and is President of the McHenry County Medical Society. He is one of the original members of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, and a member of the American Entomological Society of Philadelphia, also a member of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. He was a member of the first Board of Aldermen of Algonquin, and served as Police Magistrate for twelve years. Fraternally he is a Mason and was formally Master of the lodge in Algonquin, which has been discontinued; he is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Knights of the Maccabees, of which he is Medical Examiner, and is Examining Physician for several Insurance Companies. He married in Algonquin, June 29, 1874, to Ann Goodson, born June 24, 1853, daughter of William and Elizabeth Goodson.

William Goodson was born in England and moved to America and settled in Algonquin Township, where he engaged in farming.

Dr. and Mrs. Nason are the parents of Mary E., William E., and Charles C.

WILLIAM M. ORMSBY.

Among the pioneers of McHenry County there are few whose history covers a longer period than that of William M. Ormsby of Ridgefield, Ill.. Mr. Ormsby comes of sterling English ancestry through a colonial family of New England. There is a tradition (how well founded is unknown) that the American branch of the family was transplanted through the immigration of three brothers, who came from England and settled in Connecticut Colony at an early day. Luther (the father of our subject) was born at Lebanon, Conn., and married Sarah Chappel, a native of the same place—there being a difference of only three months in the ages of the two. Early in 1800 Mr. Ormsby removed to New York and settled in Otsego County on the headwaters of the Susquehanna. Later he removed to Broome County, in the same State, and opened up a farm of 100 acres near Harpersville. In his old age he went to Steuben County, N. Y., and spent the last years of his life with his son Elihu, dying at the advanced age of ninety-three years. His wife preceded him some five years, dying at the age of eighty-eight. Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby were members of the Baptist church, and maintained the reputation of upright and conscientious citizens—Mr. Ormsby being for many years a deacon in the church. Their children were: Oliver, Elihu, Eunice, Luther and William M.

The last of these, whose name heads this article, was born in Otsego County, N. Y., July 26, 1814, and, receiving a limited common school education, was reared to the life of a farmer. In 1837, having reached the age of twenty-three years, he emigrated to Illinois in company with his brother Luther, wife and child. The journey was made to Buffalo by means of a two-horse wagon, then shipping their team and effects on board of a steamboat, by lake to Toledo, Ohio, thence by their own conveyance to Dorr Township, McHenry County, Ill., by way of Chicago. Here Mr. Ormsby located a claim on a tract of 240 acres in Section 13, consisting of "oak openings," and for four or five years, made his home with his brother Luther, who located a claim near by. On Nov. 28, 1844, William Ormsby was married in Dorr Township to Lucia L. Bunker, daughter of John and Eurania (Tuttle) Bunker, born in

1829. Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby then settled on his claim, on which he had already erected a small frame house. After spending two years in the work of improving his land, he removed to his present location, where by industry and judicious management, he has succeeded in opening a well-improved farm of 240 acres. In 1861 he erected on this tract a fine frame house, which was then regarded as one of the most complete farm houses in Dorr Township. Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby have two children—Charles H., born July 30, 1846, and Mattie E., born June 1, 1861. Mr. Ormsby was originally a member of the Baptist church, but afterwards joined the Methodist church, of which his wife was a member. Mrs. Ormsby died June 17, 1886. She was a woman of amiable character and highly esteemed. In early days Mr. Ormsby was called upon to serve on the Grand Jury and has repeatedly served on the Petit Jury of McHenry County, also has served once on the Grand Jury since the location of the county seat at Woodstock. By fair-dealing and upright conduct, he has won the respect and esteem of his neighbors and the citizens of McHenry County generally.

Charles H. Ormsby, the son of the preceding, was brought up to the life of a farmer on the old homestead, was educated in the common schools and at an academy in Beloit, Wis., attending the latter several terms. On April 4, 1872, he was married in Dorr Township to Anna Scott, born in that township May 30, 1849, the daughter of Andrew and Sarah (Spooner) Scott, the former a pioneer of Seneca Township. Mr. Scott was born in Glasgow, Scotland, about 1818, and came with two older brothers (William and James—both now deceased) to Seneca Township, McHenry County, Ill., in 1837. Here the brothers bought Government land, and when Andrew had reached the age of about twenty-one years, he was married to Sarah A. Spooner, a native of Vermont. After spending a few years on the land which he had originally entered in Seneca Township, Mr. and Mrs. Scott removed to Dorr Township, where he bought and improved 160 acres, erecting on it good buildings. In 1878 Mr. Scott moved to Phillips County, Kans., where he engaged in stock raising; later removed to and engaged successfully in the same business in Nebraska, but is now a well-to-do citizen of



Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Scott are the parents of six children: Alice G., Anna K., Mary S., Mettalla K., Maria S and John B. Both are members of the Presbyterian church, and are living hale and prosperous lives in Kansas.

After his marriage, referred to in the preceding paragraph, Mr. Charles H. Ormsby settled on the Ormsby homestead, where he has since continued to reside. In 1882 he built a feed mill on the farm, which he still owns. He is an intelligent and practical farmer, and, like his father, a staunch Republican. Mrs. Ormsby is a member of the Presbyterian church. Their children are: Erle S., William M., Sadie S. and Charles H., Jr.

#### JAMES FRANKLIN PARKER.

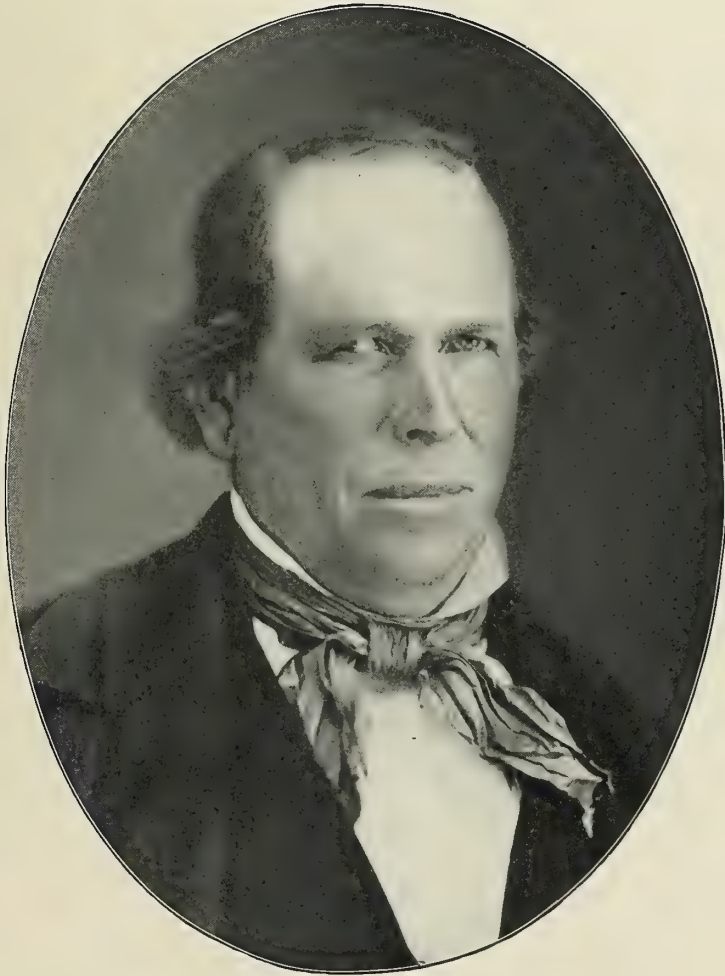
James Franklin Parker, early settler and substantial citizen of McHenry County, traces his ancestry through colonial and New England stock, to emigrants from England, who came to Massachusetts at an early day. James Parker, the grandfather of James F., was born in Massachusetts in 1768, the son of a Revolutionary soldier, and became a farmer by occupation. Soon after his marriage to Miss Sarah Barrett, he moved to Ontario County, N. Y., and settled at East Bloomfield, where his father had located before him. This region was almost an unbroken wilderness at the time, and wild animals were plentiful in their native forests. Bears were especially numerous, not unfrequently approaching settlers' cabins and carrying off hogs and other domestic animals. On one occasion a bruin which had been prowling about the Parker home, attacked a hog in a pen near by, and Mr. Parker, hearing the disturbance, seized a handspike, with which he attacked the intruder and succeeded in killing it. Mr. Parker cleared up a farm and built on it a frame dwelling house, which is still standing in a good state of preservation and occupied by some of his descendants. He died here June 24, 1844, at the age of over seventy-six years, and was buried in the family cemetery, which he had laid out on his farm. His wife, Sarah (Barrett) Parker, was born Dec. 29, 1771, and lived to be nearly ninety-four years old, dying Oct. 10, 1865. They were the parents of the following named children: Eleazer, born May 11, 1796; Averlina, born Jan. 17, 1798; Almira, born Jan. 16, 1800; David, born March 17, 1801;

Clarissa, born April 10, 1803; Alvin Hyde, born April 11, 1804; Aaron Collins, born Oct. 2, 1805; James J., born Feb. 16, 1807; Silas, born in 1809; Joseph J., born July 6, 1811; Benjamin, born May 10, 1813; Edwin, born Jan. 21, 1815; Sarah A., born Aug. 3, 1817.

Alvin Hyde Parker, of this family, born at East Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y., received the usual common school education of that time, became a farmer and was married in Portage, Livingston County, N. Y., June 15, 1826, to Mary Hosford, born in Victor, N. Y., June 17, 1802, the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Williams) Hosford. Joseph Hosford was of Colonial Connecticut and English ancestry and born Dec. 7, 1761. His father, of the same name, was born in Ireland, though of English descent, came to America at the age of seventeen years and settled in Connecticut. Joseph, Jr., was married in Stockbridge, Mass., in 1793, and his wife, Mary (Williams) Hosford, was born in 1768. Joseph Hosford became a soldier at sixteen years of age and served until the end of the Revolutionary war. His children who lived to years of maturity, were: Charles, born in 1796, died August, 1825; Eunice, born Sept. 11, 1799; Mary, born July 28, 1802; Abigail born Aug. 20, 1804. Joseph Hosford, the father of this family, lived for a time after his marriage in Livingston County, N. Y., where a colony had been established, but in 1808 he removed to Victor, Ontario County, N. Y., and still later to Nunda, Livingston County, in the same State. Here his wife died, July 9, 1841, his own death occurring Jan. 5, 1847, at the age of over eighty-five years. The daughter Mary of this family, afterwards Mrs. Alvin H. Parker, was a teacher who taught schools in Bloomfield, Victor and Hunt's Hollow—in all nine terms. One of her pupils was the venerable Deacon J. C. Button, of McHenry County, Ill., and another, Washington Hunt, afterwards Governor of New York.

After his marriage Alvin H. Parker settled in Niagara County, N. Y., where he began opening up a farm on heavily timbered land, but a few years later returned to Ontario County, settling in South Bristol, where he began making another home. He also lived for a time in Bloomfield and in Portage, but in 1838 came to Michigan, where two of his brothers, Joseph and Silas, had already located in Oakland Coun-





*A. H. Parker*





*Mrs. Alvin H. Parker.*





ty. This journey was made on foot, except the portion between Buffalo and Detroit, which was made by boat. Having walked across the State of Michigan to Grand Haven, he then took a sailing vessel (called a brig) to Milwaukee, then continued his journey on foot to Madison, Wis., and thence to Chicago, much of the country over which he passed being at that time practically a wilderness, with settlers located, if at all, many miles apart. One day he was compelled to make a journey of forty-five miles before he could find a stopping place for the night. Having returned home after this trip, in 1840 he made a second journey westward when he visited McHenry County, Ill., and selected the land upon which he afterwards located, now known as the Parker homestead, and occupied by the Hunt brothers. This tract at that time consisted of eighty acres of timber and prairie land, of which only ten acres had been broken and a small log house had been erected upon it. Returning home again, in June, 1841, he brought out his family, consisting of his wife and five children, making the journey by the steamer "Great Western" around the lakes to Kenosha, Wis., and thence across the country by wagon to McHenry County. He gradually improved his land, adding to it by purchase until he was the owner of 1160 acres, lying in Hebron, McHenry and Greenwood Townships. Of this land 880 acres were comprised within the home farm. He built on the homestead a substantial frame residence, which is still standing. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin H. Parker were: James Franklin, born Sept. 2, 1828; Clarissa Elizabeth, born Aug. 22, 1830; Emily Sarah, born Jan. 9, 1833; Mary Louville, born April 17, 1835; Ellen Laura, born June 10, 1837—all born at South Bristol, N. Y., except James F. and Ellen Laura, the latter being born at East Bloomfield the same State. Clarissa Elizabeth died in 1892, and Ellen Laura, May 31, 1887. Mr. Parker was an industrious and capable business man, as his business record shows. He held the offices of Road Commissioner and School Director, in which he gave evidence of his public spirit by his efforts to secure good roads and promote the cause of education. He was a member of of the first School Board in Hebron Township, having for his colleagues Bela Tryon and Jacob Gilbert. They raised the money by subscrip-

tion to build the first school house in the township, located on land owned by Mr. Parker one-half mile west of Tryon's Corners. This building (a frame) still stands one mile east of the corners. The first teacher to occupy it was Sabina Parsons, who taught a summer school in it in 1842.

Mr. Alvin H. Parker was one of the original members of the first Methodist church in Hebron Township, and his wife of the first Presbyterian church in the same township. He assisted to build the Presbyterian church at Greenwood, now owned by the Methodists. He was one of the early class leaders in his church and also held the office of church steward, always taking an active part in church affairs. In politics he was an old line Whig, voting for Henry Clay for President, an avowed opponent of slavery, and an early Republican. Of sterling integrity and unblemished character, his memory is justly held in reverence by his descendants and all who knew him. He died in Woodstock, McHenry County, April 4, 1879, and was buried in the family cemetery on his farm.

James Franklin Parker, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born Sept. 2, 1828, in Lewiston, Niagara County, N. Y., within six miles of Niagara Falls. Here his father lived three years, when he removed to Bristol, and eight years later to East Bloomfield. Then, after a few years spent at Portage, N. Y., when James was twelve years old, his father removed to McHenry County, Ill., arriving there in June, 1841. Here the son attended the first school taught in Hebron Township, and thereafter attended school during the winter months, while working upon the farm in the summer until he was twenty-one. He then went to New York State, and for six months attended an academy at East Bloomfield, afterwards spending one term in the academy at Greenwood, McHenry County, under the instruction of the Principal, Elder Hart. In the meantime he had received the training of a practical farmer, and, on May 10, 1854, was married at Chemung, McHenry County, to Hannah Jane Seaward, who was born at Chemung, N. Y., Oct. 10, 1832, the daughter of William and Julia A. (Wynkoop) Seaward. The Wynkoops were patriots of the Revolutionary period, the male members of the family serving in the army. William Seaward, who was born July 29, 1799, was of English

stock, and belonged to the same family as the late Secretary William H. Seward, an earlier member of the family having changed the spelling of the name to "Seaward." This William Seaward was a farmer and came to Illinois in the early '30s, thereafter removing successively to Dixon, Poplar Grove and Chemung, Ill., finally settling at the latter place, where he built a saw and grist mill. He was a prominent citizen here, served for a time as Justice of the Peace and was always active in public affairs. During the gold excitement of 1850 he went to California, where he remained five years. Then having returned to Illinois, after a short period he went back to California, spending another five years there. He was married three times; first on Dec. 25, 1822, and his first wife having died Feb. 3, 1826, on April 29, 1827, he was married to Julia A. Wynkoop, who was born April 18, 1799, and died Sept. 23, 1855. This was during the second absence of Mr. Seaward in California, the death of his wife taking place at the home of his son Benjamin in Iowa. There were two children by the first marriage, viz.: Myrtilla and Susan; and four by the second: Benjamin W., born Jan. 29, 1830; Hannah J. (Mrs. James F. Parker), born Oct. 10, 1832; Ophelia C., born Nov. 3, 1835; William Tell, born June 9, 1838. The third marriage took place in Pennsylvania, resulting in the birth of one child, named Rosa. After this marriage Mr. Seaward lived three years in Chemung, McHenry County, and some time in Dakota, and then returned to Pennsylvania, dying at Fairmount in that State, Nov. 9, 1875. Mr. Seaward was a member and class-leader in the Methodist church, and in politics a Democrat. He crossed the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers when about seventeen years of age, carrying a considerable sum of money for a company in whose employ he was, returning to Chicago by pack-train, when that was the only mode of conveyance.

In the fall of 1852 James F. Parker taught a school at Chemung, McHenry County, in which his wife, then a young lady of twenty-one years, was a pupil. After this marriage, as previously stated, on May 10, 1854, they first settled on the old Parker homestead, where they remained five years, when they located on his present farm. This farm consists of 400 acres, being a part of his father's estate. He

lived for some time in an old log house on this farm, but in 1875 built a frame dwelling in which the family now reside. He has also erected good frame buildings, besides a farm residence on the eastern side of this tract for the use of a tenant.

Mr. and Mrs. Parker have one daughter, named Julia May, born Sept. 30, 1863. They are members of the Presbyterian church, and in politics Mr. Parker is a Republican. The family lived in Woodstock from 1874 to 1887.

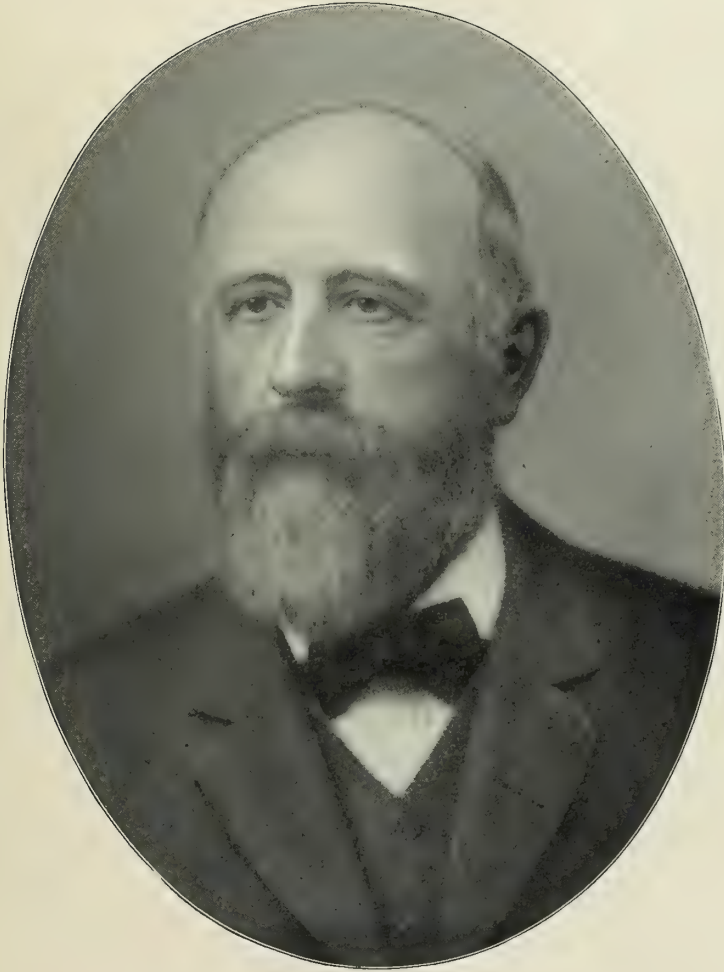
Mr. Parker grew up among the pioneers of McHenry County, was acquainted with their families, sharing their generous hospitality, and has a vivid recollection of conditions existing in Hebron Township when it was possible to see twenty deer grazing in a single herd. In those days the latch-string was always out, and much pleasure was taken in social and neighborly intercourse. When a boy of sixteen years Mr. Parker assisted in breaking prairie land with a team of six yoke of oxen, using a big prairie plow made of steel, capable of cutting through the tough prairie sod or grubbed land, and turning a furrow twenty-six inches in width. In order to keep down the growth of timber and underbrush, the Indians had long been accustomed to burn over these prairie lands every year, thus enabling them to see the game the more easily during the fall and winter hunting season.

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#### LYMAN PIERCE.

Lyman Pierce, a pioneer citizen of Hebron Township, McHenry County, belongs to a family of colonial and Puritan stock whose ancestors settled at an early day in Massachusetts. His grandfather, William Pierce, was a citizen of Massachusetts, who married a Miss Benson and had children named: Eben, William and Zenas. Zenas, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Massachusetts about 1797, received a common-school education, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812, part of the time doing duty on a vessel on Lake Erie in guarding prisoners. While a young man he went to Steuben County, New York, and in Pultney Township of that county, married Harriet Stewart, a native of New York and a daughter of Joseph and Lydia Stewart. Her parents were natives of the North of Ire-





*Lab. F. Parker*





*Hannah Jane Porter*





land, both born in 1759 and, coming to Steuben County, at an early day, Mr. Stewart opened up a farm in Pultney Township, the locality becoming known as "Stewart's Corners." They were the parents of fifteen children, viz.: Selden, Mary, Rhoda, Statira, Spencer, Lydia, William, Joseph, Betsy, John, Harriet, Lyman, Hannah, Ann Eliza and Arnold. Mr. Stewart died on his farm at an advanced age. He was a Free-Will Baptist, and reared an excellent family.

After marriage, Zenas Pierce first settled on a farm belonging to his father-in-law, but finally moved some forty miles distant, where he settled on a tract of 100 acres of heavily timbered land, where he cleared up a farm. His children were: Annis, Betsy, Lovina, Benson, Zenas, Lydia, John and Lyman. In 1845 he came west making the journey by way of the lakes from Buffalo to Racine, Wis., and thence by teams to Hebron Township, McHenry County, where he arrived in the month of June and bought a tract of 160 acres of land from a widow, Mrs. Mary Coleson, to which he afterwards added eighty acres. On this land he erected a good home which is still standing, dying here August, 1882, at the age of eighty-four years. This is the home still occupied by his son Lyman. The father was a prominent member and a liberal supporter of the Methodist church, donating the land for a church edifice which he assisted to build. Early Methodist meetings were held at his house. In political opinion he was a Jacksonian Democrat.

Lyman Pierce, the son, was born in Steuben County, New York, Nov. 27, 1835, and at ten years of age, accompanied his father to McHenry County. Here he attended school in a log school-house in Hebron Township, which stood where the Sawyer School House now stands. One of his teachers was Miss Helen Ehle. He grew up a farmer and was married on Dec. 1, 1862, at Genoa Junction, Wis., to Miss Maria A. Read, of Coral Township, McHenry County, who was born in Steuben County, New York, March 25, 1837, the daughter of Charles and Harriet (Hebard) Read. (For sketch of the Read family, see latter part of this article). After their marriage Lyman Pierce and wife settled in Lynn Township, Walworth County, Wis., where he bought eighty acres of land, to which he has kept

adding until he now owns, in one body, 370 acres. Having remained in Wisconsin two years, in 1864 he moved onto that part of his farm lying in Illinois, where he lived until 1888, and then moved upon a part of the old family homestead in Hebron village. He has lived an industrious and frugal life, and with the aid of his faithful and capable wife, has been eminently successful. In politics he is a Democrat and maintains a reputation for high integrity. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce's children are: Harriet A., who married John P. Wickham, and John L., who died July 14, 1901, at Mariposa, Cal. Mrs. Pierce received a good education under the instruction of her mother who was a well-educated woman, supplemented by courses in the public schools, the Collegiate Institute at Marengo and at Rockford Female Seminary. From the latter her sister Harriet A. M. graduated and became a teacher. After fifty years spent in educational work, she is now living in Hebron.

The parents of Mrs. Lyman Pierce were descended from Puritan ancestors, who were among the first settlers in the vicinity of Boston, and they were both of the sixth generation in this country.

Her father, Charles Read, was a son of Joseph Read, of Belchertown, Mass. He married, in 1822, Miss Harriet M. Hebard, a daughter of Rev. Asa Hebard of Leyden, Mass.

After their marriage, they lived in Greenwich, four years, and then removed to Athol, where he bought a farm on "Athol Street." In 1830 they removed to Steuben County, N. Y., and in 1844, to McHenry County, Ill. They settled in the northeastern part of the town of Coral. He bought land from the Government, and built a frame house, for which he hauled the lumber from Chicago, with ox-teams. At that time the nearest house on the road to Chicago was about seven miles from his land, near where Huntley now stands.

Mr. Read attended the first term of court held at Woodstock, and the first McHenry County fair; and he was present at Elgin, when the first train of cars arrived from Chicago. He lived to see his home half hidden by trees of his own planting; to see the landscape dotted with farm buildings, churches, and school-houses, and four railroads built across the county. He was a member of the

Presbyterian church and in politics a Republican. He died at the home of his son, J. A. Read, in Union, Ill., Oct. 20, 1875. Mrs. Read died Feb. 21, 1869.

They had five children—three sons and two daughters. The sons were: Charles B., a physician, who died at Platte, Mich., Jan. 2, 1884; George A., a manufacturer of woolen goods, died at Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 10, 1889; and Joseph Alonzo, a merchant, died at Marengo, Ill., Nov. 1, 1891. The daughters were Mrs. Lyman Pierce and Miss Harriet A. M. Read, mentioned above.

William Read, a brother of Charles Read, is still living (1903) at Crystal Lake, Ill., at the age of ninety-nine years.

The grandfather of Mrs. Pierce were both soldiers in the Revolution. Joseph Read was one of the company on the way to join Gen. Stark's army when the battle of Bennington was in progress. Asa Hebard was present at Bunker Hill, and at Cambridge, when Gen. Washington first took command of the army. He served under Washington five years; served in the Jersey campaigns, was at Valley Forge, and was a standard-bearer in the battle of Monmouth.

#### RICHARD M. PATRICK.

Richard M. Patrick, a pioneer and prominent business man of Marengo, Ill., descends from sterling Scotch ancestry. The name, which was originally spelled "Kirkpatrick," dates back to the ninth century, when the title Baron or Knight of Closeburn was conferred upon the head of the house. Well authenticated tradition states that St. Patrick was born on the Closeburn estate, and previously the head of the estate had been McGill Patrick. Sir Roger Kirkpatrick, a scion of Closeburn, fought with Sir William Wallace and later with Bruce. Sir Walter Scott, in "The Lord of the Isles," has made him famous in his encounter with "Red Conyn" in Gray Friars' Church, Dumfries, in which Sir Roger dealt the decisive blow with the exclamation, "I make Sikkar" (I make sure). This was the origin of the family crest, a dagger dropping blood with the motto, "I make Sikkar." In modern times we find that the mother of the Ex-Empress Eugenie of France was a Kirkpatrick of Close-

burn, the old estate of Closeburn being in Dumfries on the Nith, where the old castle is still standing and is in a fair state of preservation. The castle was held by the family until 1785, when it was sold. The Kirkpatricks were all Covenanters, and Claverhouse and his rough-riders made it so warm for them, that they emigrated to the North of Ireland, where they intermarried with people of their own race and faith and became prominent in wars, taking an active part in the siege of Derry. During the wars of James II., two brothers, Ebenezer and William, emigrated from the North of Ireland and settled in New England. Ebenezer, one of William's descendants, married Rebecca Campbell, and in 1763, they removed from Litchfield, Conn., to Stillwater, Saratoga County, N. Y. He served in the Revolutionary War in a regiment of New York militia under command of Col. Van Veghten. His son Robert W., born in 1760, also served as a soldier in the War of the Revolution and took part in the battles of Stillwater and Saratoga. In 1780, Robert W. married Pamela Ives, and their son, Nathaniel, born in Saratoga County, N. Y., Feb. 10, 1785, received a good common-school education and adopted the occupation of a farmer. He was married in Cuyler, Cortland County, N. Y., Nov. 29, 1810, to Penelope Potter, born in Saratoga County, N. Y., in 1793, the daughter of Nathaniel Potter, who was a First Lieutenant in Levi Paulding's regiment of New York militia. In 1793 Nathaniel Potter removed from Saratoga to Cortland County, N. Y., and was the first settler in the town of Cuyler. Mrs. Potter died in 1795, her death being the first in that town. Mr. Potter was accidentally killed by a falling tree in 1799.

Nathaniel Patrick cleared up his farm in Cuyler, N. Y., from the wilderness, and his homestead has been in the Patrick family for over one hundred years, it now being in the possession of John Wesley Patrick, the oldest son of Stephen Patrick. Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Patrick reared a family of fourteen children—all born at Cuyler, N. Y.—their names and dates of birth being as follows: Stephen, Sept. 17, 1811, died May 9, 1890; Elias, August 19, 1813, died Oct. 27, 1885; Julia Ann, Feb. 5, 1815, died March 10, 1819; Fanny E., Oct. 13, 1816, died Feb. 27, 1901; Hiram B.,



Dec. 31, 1818, died May 5, 1902; Albert, Nov. 2, 1820, died May 24, 1838; Charles, August 24, 1822, died Feb. 28, 1898; William Kirk, Feb. 16, 1824, died May 8, 1882; Lydia M., March 31, 1826; Mary, Sept. 21, 1827, died Sept. 16, 1881; Emily S., April 25, 1829, died August 23, 1830; Richard M. (subject of this sketch), May 5, 1831; Alfred, Sept. 29, 1832; Elizabeth I., June 22, 1841, died Oct. 4, 1899. Mrs. Patrick lived to be seventy-seven years old, dying Oct. 4, 1870. Nathaniel Patrick was a prominent man in his town and held several town offices. In political opinion he was an old line Whig. His estate consisted of 450 acres of land, part of which (250 acres) he bought from the United States Government and cleared of the heavy timber with which it was covered. Four of his sons came west and became prosperous farmers; two settled in DuPage County, Ill., where each owned 1,000 acres of land.

Richard M. Patrick, the immediate subject of this sketch, remained on his father's farm until sixteen years of age, in the meantime receiving a good common-school education. He then engaged as a clerk in a store owned by his brother Elias, in Broome County, N. Y., where he remained for two years and afterwards attended school for two years at an academy in Cortland, N. Y. Completing his course at the academy, he taught school two winter sessions, working on the home farm during the intervening summer months. In June, 1851, he came via the lakes to Chicago, where he visited his brothers Hiram B. and William K., and his sister Mrs. Fannie E. Hull. One year later he made a trip down the Mississippi River to New Orleans, and thence up the Arkansas. Returning to Illinois, he came to Marengo, where he engaged in the mercantile business with Charles W. Angle. In 1853 Mr. Patrick bought the property where his present bank now stands, there then being a small frame building on the lot, which was the second building erected on Main Street and was built by Henry Parkhurst. Mr. Patrick conducted his business with great energy, and by 1864 had established a trade of over \$100,000 per year. In 1864 he disposed of a one-half interest to his brother Elias and his sons Frank W. and Henry E. In 1867 he started a private bank, and in

1871 organized a National Bank with a capital of \$50,000, which has been a successful institution with Mr. Patrick as its President. Besides his banking business, Mr. Patrick owns a large amount of farm property and has, at the present time, three farms consisting of 190, 210 and 480 acres, respectively, all of which he personally conducts. He was one of the founders and proprietors of the Collins & Burgie Co., Stove Manufacturers, managing this business for several years, and has also been interested in several other enterprises. He has taken an active interest in having a good city government and good schools, has served several terms as Mayor, and at intervals, since 1855, has been a member of the School Board, frequently holding the office of President of the Board. Mr. Patrick built and owns the Opera House block, the block occupied by Dr. Richardson's drug-store and other valuable real estate. His present residence, built in 1858, was almost entirely rebuilt about eight years ago. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, of which he has long been a trustee and has contributed liberally toward the building of the new church. In political opinion he is a stanch Republican, being one of the founders of the party in McHenry County and cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Patrick is entirely a self-made man. Having inherited a strong constitution, untiring energy and indomitable will, he has won his way to success and is now a prominent, influential and wealthy man.

At Rockford, Ill., Dec. 29, 1856, Mr. Patrick was united in marriage with Emma Page, who was born at Pulaski, Mich., Nov. 29, 1839, the daughter of Rev. William and Frances (Durand) Page, and they are the parents of the following named children: Fred Albert, Annie P., Ernest Durand, Frances C. and Winifred.

Of their children, Fred A. married Louise C. Cook of Marcellus, N. Y., and they are the parents of three children. He owns a large wholesale dry goods establishment in Duluth, Minn., in which the annual sales aggregate about \$1,000,000.

Annie P. is a graduate of Lake Forest College and married Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, the eminent Divine of Brooklyn, N. Y., and they have three children.

Ernest Durand—(see sketch in another part of this volume.)

Frances C. married Dr. Charles W. Moyer of Rockford, Ill., and they have one child.

Winifred, after completing a course of study at the Young Ladies' Seminary, Lake Forest, Ill., attended a college in Washington, D. C. She resides at home.

Concerning Mrs. R. M. Patrick's ancestors, the following facts are of interest.

The Pages were a prominent colonial family, and David Page (grandfather of Mrs. Patrick), of Bedford, Mass., was a descendant, in the fourth generation, of Christopher Page, who, in 1690, emigrated with his family to New Bedford, Mass., having previously served as an officer in the British army, and is believed to have left the service at the time of his departure for America. The line of descent is through his second son, Nathaniel; from him to his son Nathaniel, and thence to Mrs. Patrick's great-grandfather, David Page, who had two children, David and Hannah.

David Page, grandfather of Mrs. Patrick, was, in early days, a man of affairs and owned large manufacturing interests in Middleburg, Vt., in later life investing his money in land and other valuable property. He was prominent in political affairs, at one time serving as Treasurer of Michigan Territory. He was born in 1767, and, in 1791, married Elizabeth Minot, daughter of Capt. Jonas Minot, of Wilmot, N. H. David Page lived to a venerable age, and both he and Mrs. Page died in Ann Arbor, Mich., the year of Mrs. Page's death being 1836.

The Minots are a distinguished colonial family and among the few families of this country entitled to armorial bearings. They are descendants of Sir Thomas Minot, who held valuable possessions in Essex, England. His son, George Minot, born in Saffron Walden, Essex, England, in 1594, was one of the first settlers of New England, his home being in Dorchester, Mass. In the fifth generation, Charles Minot, who was the President of the New York Central Railroad, was born. He was a son of Capt. James Minot, who had valuable possessions in Wilmot, N. H.

Rev. William Page, the father of Mrs. R. M. Patrick, was born in Concord, Mass., Sept. 16, 1798, a son of David and Catharine (Minot)

Page. He was one of the early ministers of the Presbyterian church in the West and prominent in its councils. His ministerial appointments were: New York City, Pulaski, Monroe, Hillsdale and Three Rivers, Mich. He did much towards the establishment of new churches, and was one of the builders of the First Presbyterian church at Ann Arbor, Mich., Rev. Page married Frances (Shelden) Durand, a daughter of William and Sarah (Amber) Durand, and they were the parents of Fannie, Mary, Abbie, Sarah, Emma, William and Charles. Mrs. Page was born in Bethlehem, Conn., July 30, 1807, and died in Chicago, April 3, 1890. Rev. William Page died in Rockford, Ill., May 23, 1856, and both he and his wife are buried in the Rockford cemetery.

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#### ERNEST DURAND PATRICK.

Hon. Ernest Durand Patrick, Mayor of the City of Marengo, is a practical and progressive business man, whose fitness for the position which he occupies is demonstrated by the thrifty and well-ordered condition in which the city has been maintained under his administration. Mr. Patrick was born in Marengo, Jan. 31, 1869, the son of Richard M. and Emma (Page) Patrick, and after receiving his primary education in the public schools and graduating from the high school of his native town, spent a year in Lake Forest University, after which he took a final two-years' course in the old Phillips Exeter Academy, at Exeter, N. H. The last named institution, with a history extending over a period of more than one hundred and twenty years, has always maintained a high record for thorough work, which has enabled it to send out from its halls some of the most noteworthy men in the various branches of literature, science and business that this country has produced. After leaving Phillips Exeter Academy, he spent a year traveling in Europe, after which, in the fall of 1890, he entered into the employment of the First National Bank of Marengo as clerk and bookkeeper. In course of time he was promoted to the position of Assistant Cashier, and finally to that of Cashier, which he now holds. Mr. Patrick is also a stockholder in the bank and, for the past ten years, has been one of its directors, and has won a high reputation as a successful and trustworthy business man.



*[Handwritten signature]*





In his political relations Mr. Patrick is an earnest Republican who takes an active interest in local and general politics. In 1900 he was elected Supervisor of Marengo Township, filling the office one term. A year later he was elected Mayor of the City of Marengo. That he has given the people a practical and progressive administration is indicated by the changes which have been wrought in municipal affairs since his election. Previous to his election to this important office, a bitter contest had been waged between the various political factions in the city, public improvements had been neglected and the money collected from the tax-payers had been expended without bringing to the people the benefits to which they were entitled. The streets in the residence portion of the city were badly in need of graveling, while the sidewalks on the principal streets were in a condition reflecting discredit upon a city of the importance of Marengo. Street crossings were in bad repair and not properly constructed, and there was an urgent demand for a new and more thorough system of improvements.

On his election to the mayoralty, Mr. Patrick was determined that these faults should be remedied, and that municipal affairs should be placed on a thorough business basis. His first step was to appoint capable and efficient men to all subordinate positions, regardless of politics, and see to it that their duties were discharged with absolute fidelity and efficiency. Among the improvements so far made has been the construction of modern cement sidewalks on both sides of Main Street, while a large amount of work has been done in the residence portions of the town. These side-walks are constructed of the best material, and, while adding greatly to the attractiveness of these portions of the city, have contributed to the comfort, convenience and health of the people. During his first year's administration the width of Main Street was increased by fourteen feet from Prairie Street to the railroad tracks, making it a broad and handsome avenue. It having been discovered that, in the matter of securing material for graveling the roads a heavy expense would have to be incurred, through Mayor Patrick's influence a gravel-pit was purchased by the city, providing an ample supply of gravel of an excellent quality at a moderate price, and many of the streets have now been

graveled and the number will be increased as rapidly as the work can be done. The electric light and water-works plants had been a heavy expense to the city from the time of their establishment, but both of these have now been made self-supporting. This result has been accomplished, in part at least, by adopting the policy of purchasing fuel and other supplies at the most favorable market rates, and making close collections for service. For the latter special credit should be awarded to the Superintendent, P. T. Parkhurst. The water mains have been extended during his administration, about one mile has been added, and through these the water is efficiently served. The system of electric lighting has also been materially extended. Many new and excellent brick-crossings have been put in place in different parts of the city, in a thorough and workmanlike manner, and this work is being continued in the residence portions. While the utilities which pertain to the every-day wants and health of the city have been carefully looked after and improved, a beginning has been made in the proper care of the public park, which before had been neglected and allowed to yield a bountiful crop of hay annually. During Mayor Patrick's incumbency this has been kept regularly mowed and in as smooth a condition as any well-kept lawn in the city. These are valuable and useful improvements which tend to make Marengo a more attractive and desirable place of residence, and every citizen more self-respecting as he sees around him the evidences of a condition of municipal thrift and prosperity resulting from the proper and economical use of the money of the tax-payer in securing practical improvements. A general sewerage system is now under contemplation, and surveys for this purpose will soon be made with a view to beginning the work on a systematic basis as soon as practicable.

Mr. Patrick was married Sept. 7, 1892, in his native city of Marengo, to Leone Vail, who was born in Marengo, Nov. 24, 1871, the daughter of Elisha J. and Delphi E. (Sponable) Vail. To Mr. and Mrs. Patrick have been born two daughters: Martha L., born June 8, 1894, and Frances Durand, born Dec. 28, 1897. In religious belief Mr. Patrick is a Presbyterian. He is a member of the gentlemen's clothing and furnishing firm in Marengo, known as

"The Cub," which is doing a successful business; is also the treasurer and credit man of the Collins & Burgie Stove-Works, and has been manager of the Marengo opera-house for four seasons.

Born and reared in Marengo, Mayor Patrick is widely and favorably known to the residents of that city as a genial and kind-hearted gentleman, with a record for personal and business integrity that will bear the most thorough investigation in the light of the noon-day sun.

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#### ANDREW PURVES.

Andrew Purves (deceased), early settler of McHenry County, was born in Scotland about the year 1810, and being left an orphan when about eight years of age, was brought up by an aunt. As far as known he had two brothers, named Thomas and Richard, and a sister, named Mary. The latter married a Mr. Anderson. The brothers married and reared families and their descendants are still living in Scotland. Andrew Purves received a fair common school education in his native country, and on Feb. 22, 1842, was married at Biggar, a small town a few miles distant from Edinburgh, to Eliza Smith, who was born March 17, 1818, the daughter of John and Mary Smith. John Smith was a farmer and dairyman in comfortable circumstances. He and his wife were parents of children named: John, Isabella, David, Mary, George, Robert and James. About one week after his marriage, Mr. Purves, accompanied by his wife and her three brothers, George, Robert and James, sailed from Liverpool for America, the voyage to New York occupying one month. All came directly to McHenry County and Mr. and Mrs. Purves stopped, for the first week after their arrival, at Marengo with Alexander Hutchinson, an old neighbor from Scotland. Mr. Purves soon after bought what is known as the Purves farm, consisting of 240 acres. The improvements upon the farm consisted of a log house and a few acres of broken land. Mr. Purves lived here with his family for some years, when he erected a frame house and barn and made other improvements. At the time he settled in McHenry County there were few settlers between Marengo and Belvidere. He hauled his grain

and other produce to the Chicago market, taking back with him housekeeping necessities. Religious meetings were held in houses and barns, as at that time there were no church edifices in the vicinity. The children of this family were: Mary Lawrie, Jane Wilson, Janet and Agnes. Mr. Purves died on his farm Nov. 6, 1850, while his wife survived him many years, dying March 7, 1889, at the age of nearly seventy-two years. She was a devout member of the Presbyterian church and a woman of strong character. The two daughters, Mary Lawrie and Agnes, were both well educated, having been pupils in the Marengo High School and the former was a teacher in the home district for five terms. She is a woman of much business ability, and for many years has been a member of the School Board in her district. This school has a large attendance and has been managed in a manner highly satisfactory to the people of the district. Both the sisters are members of the Presbyterian church at Marengo, of which they are liberal supporters, taking an active interest in church affairs. They are ladies of education and culture, and their pleasant home is filled with books and other evidences of taste and refinement. In 1895 they erected an attractive and substantial two-story residence, which is an important addition to this pleasant old homestead. In 1845 George Smith, a brother of Mrs. Purves, built upon the Purves property what was known as the old "Smith Mill," which, in the early days was the only saw and grist mill in that part of the county, and was patronized by settlers throughout a large extent of the country. Before his final removal to America and permanent settlement in McHenry County, Andrew Purves came to Canada and, after working on a farm there for some time, went to Bath County, Ky., where he worked on a turnpike for Robert Pringle and Alexander Redpath. He then came to Jo Daviess County, Ill., where he worked in the lead mines for several years, after which he returned to his native country for his bride. He was a man of strong character, and, for more than fifty years after his death, his surviving friends still speak of him in terms of high appreciation.



**JOHN PETER.**

John Peter, one of the leading business men of Algonquin and a resident of that place for over thirty years, was born in Harlem, N. Y., of sterling Scotch descent. His grandfather, David Peter, who was a soldier for many years in the British Army and served in India, was born in Scotland and married and settled in Dundee, in his native country.

John O. Peter, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Dundee, Scotland, in 1808, and received a common-school education. He married in his native place Margaret Turnbull, who was born there in 1808, and their children were named: David, George, John, James and Margaret. In July, 1842, Mr. Peter came to New York where he remained for a few months, when he came to Chicago and settled on the Calumet River at a point where South Chicago is now located. Here he kept a hotel, and after running a stage line for two years, bought an unimproved farm of 160 acres in Bloom Township, Cook County, Ill., where he lived until 1853, when he removed to Elk Grove, Ill., and there purchased a farm. In 1863, having retired from active life, he moved to Arlington Heights, Ill., where he spent the remainder of his days, dying in 1876, aged sixty-eight years. In religious belief he was a Presbyterian and was a liberal supporter of his church in which he also served as deacon for many years. In political opinions he was originally a Democrat, but later became a Republican.

John Peter, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Harlem, N. Y., Aug. 21, 1842, the same year that his parents removed to Chicago. He received a good common-school education, and, when young, engaged in agricultural pursuits on his father's farm. On July 28, 1862, when nearly twenty years of age, he enlisted in Chicago as a private for three years in Company K, Eighty-Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., July 7, 1865. Mr. Peter participated in the battles of Stone River, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Jonesboro, and the two battles at Franklin, the second of these two battles being one of the the hardest-fought engagements in the Civil War. It was here that Updike's brigade advanced on the rebels and recovered from them the Federal works which

had been captured during the day, and, holding this position until after dark, it thus gave the Union troops an opportunity to retreat. Immediately after the charge, Mr. Peter and a party of fifty others who had volunteered to haul some cannon from the field, were returning in the night to their regiment, but, moving too far to the front, marched directly into the rebel ranks when they were taken prisoners. They were marched to Corinth, Miss., and from there taken by train to Meridian, where they were held one month in the stockade prison, and then removed to Andersonville. When captured Mr. Peter was robbed of his blanket and hat, but had \$100 secreted in the linings of his vest and trousers, which he still had when he entered Andersonville prison. The famous stockade prison at Andersonville contained twenty acres of land surrounded by pine logs piled from sixteen to eighteen feet high. There was no protection from the rain and sun, but Mr. Peter and four other Union soldiers made a shelter with a few scraps of rubber blankets by digging into the side of a bank. The food ration for each prisoner was a pint of corn meal, ground with the cob of the corn included, issued daily with occasionally a piece of pork or beef. This food was cooked in a frying pan, and every twenty days some of the prisoners were taken out to bring in a supply of fuel, which was carried over a mile on their backs. There were about 35,000 prisoners in the stockade, and the death rate, although enormous, was much less than it would have been had not a famous spring, which was located near the "dead line" of the stockade, broken out after a heavy rain during the preceding summer, and the rebels arranged it so that the prisoners could use the water, otherwise many more would have perished. The suffering in the prison was terrible, many became both mentally and physically wrecked as a result of their hardships and privations, but Mr. Peter and all of his party came through their imprisonment in good condition. The fact that their imprisonment was in the winter season, assisted greatly in lessening the fatalities from disease, and the money Mr. Peter had managed to secrete in his clothing saved many of their lives, as otherwise they might have starved to death had they been compelled to live on only prison rations. Mr. Peter was finally paroled and sent to Vicks-

burg, where he arrived just after the surrender of General Lee. After returning home from the army he engaged in farming on the home farm which his brother David had bought. Two years later he engaged in the hardware business at Caledonia, Boone County, Ill., and the following year (1869) moved his stock of goods to Algonquin, where he has since conducted a prosperous business. In Chicago, Dec. 31, 1871, he married Lida M. Helm, born in Wheeling, Cook County, Ill., Jan. 15, 1848, daughter of John and Sarah (Tuthill) Helm. They are the parents of three children: Edward C., Willis T. and Grace H. In politics Mr. Peter is a Republican, has held the office of President of the Village Board, and has served as School Treasurer for sixteen years. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Masonic Order at Dundee, and of the Nunda Post G. A. R. He is one of the substantial citizens of Algonquin, well known for his upright character and sterling qualities. He was a brave and active soldier and participated in many battles, but escaped without receiving a wound, and with all of the hardships he endured, returned from the army as sound as when he entered the service.

#### JOHN T. PETTIBONE.

John T. Pettibone, an early citizen and retired farmer of Hebron Township, McHenry County, is of English Puritan ancestry, who came to Connecticut in colonial days. His great-grandfather, Jonathan Pettibone, was born and reared in Connecticut and, in 1768, moved to Berkshire County, Mass., where he cleared up a farm from the forest. Of his children, Amos, Philo and three daughters are remembered. Jonathan Pettibone died at the age of ninety-two years. His son Amos was born about 1761, in Goshen, Litchfield County, Conn., and went with his parents to Massachusetts when seven years old, served as a soldier in the War of the Revolution, enlisting at seventeen years of age, and besides a number of skirmishes, participated in the battle of Saratoga, N. Y., which resulted in the defeat of the British General Burgoyne. He served under Colonel Brown, who was killed in the battle just referred to. After returning home, he engaged

in farming and married Sarah Barker, who was born in Providence, R. I. They settled on a farm in Berkshire County adjoining that of his father, living there until his death at the age of eighty-seven years. The children of this family were: Mary, Sallie, Lucretia, Minerva, Daniel and John. Mr. Pettibone, the father, was an industrious and much respected citizen, was a member of the Baptist Church and a corporal in the old Massachusetts State militia. Daniel Pettibone, son of the preceding, and father of John T., was born in Berkshire County, Mass., Oct. 3, 1797, and was reared as a farmer, meanwhile receiving a common-school education. February 29, 1822, he was married in Berkshire County, to Lydia Lincoln, who was born Sept. 29, 1799, the daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Northrop) Lincoln. Jonathan Lincoln was a carpenter of Berkshire County, and of old New England Colony stock. After marriage Daniel Pettibone and wife settled on the old home farm, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Their children, with the dates of their birth, were as follows: John T., Dec. 3, 1822; Lewis A., Dec. 16, 1823; Amos A., March 31, 1825; Sarah H., June 20, 1826; Franklin J., Jan. 14, 1828; Harvey J., Aug. 3, 1829; Francis A., April 11, 1831; Charles T., April 8, 1834; Bishop B., Feb. 8, 1836; Sarah D., April 16, 1838; Cecil C., Nov. 6, 1839. Daniel Pettibone was one of the Selectmen of his town, and a member of the Baptist church in which he was a deacon for many years up to the time of his death, which occurred on his farm, Dec. 26, 1848.

John T. Pettibone, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born at the Pettibone homestead in Berkshire County, Mass., received a common-school education, and was brought up a farmer. At twenty-five years of age he was married in Lanesboro Township, of his native county, on Feb. 29, 1848, to Elvira E. Sparhawk, an orphan, the names of whose parents are unknown. She was born in Lebanon, N. Y., Oct. 25, 1826. Their children were: Sarah F., born in Lanesboro Township, Berkshire County, Mass., Aug. 9, 1849; George F., born June 11, 1851, and Ida E., born May 21, 1855. Immediately after his marriage Mr. Pettibone emigrated to Lewis County, N. Y., where he engaged in farming for a year, then returned to the old homestead in Berkshire County, Mass., where he remained until 1865. During



the latter year he moved to Fox Lake, Dodge County, Wis., settling on an improved farm of eighty acres, where he remained two years, when (in 1867) he removed to Algonquin Township, McHenry County, Ill. Here he bought 120 acres of improved land upon which he lived until 1877. Mrs. Pettibone died March 30, 1874, aged forty-seven years. December 1, 1875, Mr. Pettibone was married in Aurora, Ill., to Mrs. Minerva L. Fish, who was born in Lanesboro Township, Berkshire County, Mass., Jan. 27, 1821. A year after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Pettibone removed to Rockford, Ill., where they spent one year, when, in the spring of 1878, they returned to McHenry County, locating in Hebron Township, where Mrs. Pettibone had 100 acres of improved land, upon which they settled. After remaining there ten years, deciding to retire from farm life, they removed to the village of Hebron, where they bought a pleasant home and where they now reside. They have since erected there the building in which the postoffice and a drug-store are now located. Mrs. Pettibone is a member of the Baptist church, with which she united at eighteen years of age in her native county of Berkshire, Mass., and of which, during her long life, she has been a liberal supporter, assisting to build up the church at Hebron. In politics Mr. Pettibone is a Jacksonian Democrat. In his native county in Massachusetts he held the office of Assessor seven years, and was a member of the Board of Selectmen three years. He has maintained a high reputation in the community for integrity and good judgment, has been prosperous in business and has liberally assisted his children.

Mrs. Pettibone is a daughter of William Cole, who was a native of New Ashford, Berkshire County, Mass., born Aug. 30, 1793, the son of James and Alsa (Haskins) Cole. The Cole family were old English and Rhode Island stock. James Cole moved from Rehoboth, R. I., to Berkshire County, Mass., where, like the Pettibones, he cleared up a farm in the forest. He first settled in the Berkshire Hills, but later removed to Cheshire Township, where he opened up a farm in the valley on which he passed the remainder of his days. While a young man he served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and during a battle in which he was engaged narrowly escaped death from

a bullet which passed through his hat. He was with Washington at Valley Forge. In religion he was a Baptist, and was a substantial farmer for his day. He died Dec. 21, 1829, aged seventy-four years, and his wife, Dec. 22, 1831, aged seventy-three years and nine months. The children of James and Alsa Cole, with dates of birth, were: James, Feb. 8, 1783; Cyrel, July 1, 1784; Lepha, June 20, 1786; Nancy, Oct. 7, 1788; Huldah, June 5, 1791; William, Aug. 30, 1793; Alsa, May 6, 1796, and Olive, Sept. 27, 1798.

William Cole of this family, who was the father of Mrs. Pettibone, was reared a farmer and married Lucy M. Green, born at Lanesboro, Mass., Feb. 8, 1799, the daughter of James and Olive (Slade) Green. The Green family were of old Rhode Island stock, like Gen. Nathaniel Greene of Revolutionary fame. James Green's father, Jeremiah, was from Rehoboth, R. I., and settled at an early day in Berkshire County, Mass. The children of James Green were: Lucy, Betsy, Amey and Fannie. James Green died at Lanesboro, Mass., aged seventy years. Mr. Cole removed to McHenry County, Ill., in May, 1862, and settled on the farm in Hebron Township, now owned by George W. Conn. It consisted of 280 acres with five acres of woodland. This land he bought in partnership with his daughter, then Mrs. Fish but now Mrs. Pettibone, who had come to McHenry County with her parents. William Cole died in Aurora, Ill., Sept. 13, 1872, and his wife Lucy, on Jan. 1, 1879. In politics Mr. Cole was a Jacksonian Democrat and in religious belief a Baptist—in character an upright and respectable citizen. Their children were: William Edwin, Lucy M., James M., Ellen A. and Frances E.

Mrs. Pettibone was reared in Cheshire, Berkshire County, Mass., and was married Dec. 20, 1840, at New Lebanon, N. Y., to George Fish, born in Cheshire, Mass., Nov. 20, 1819. He was a farmer and owned a farm which he had inherited from his father, Allen Fish, and upon which he settled after marriage. George Fish, who was a Baptist, died in Cheshire, Mass., Oct. 15, 1844. His children were: Nelson L., George Edwin, William Henry and Herbert A. Mrs. Fish, now Mrs. Pettibone, moved to Rockford, Ill., in 1870, and lived there until she moved to Hebron village in 1877.



**CHARLES C. PINGRY.**

As one decade succeeds another, the pioneers of the Great Central West are, one by one, passing beyond the realm of speculation into the land which, while called "unknown," might more aptly be termed the land of certainties, since the veil that covers the spiritual sight is first lifted at the door of the tomb. It is, therefore, most desirable that the record of their trials and their joys, their triumphs and their defeats, should be preserved alike for the instruction and the benefit of posterity. Among the early settlers of Algonquin Township was the distinguished citizen of Nunda, whose career forms the subject of this necessarily imperfect biographical sketch.

Charles C. Pingry belongs to the seventh generation in direct lineal descent, from the first American progenitors of that branch of the family to which he belongs. There were two brothers of excellent family and sterling worth, who came from "Old England" more than a century before the inception of the struggle of the colonies against the Crown. Originally the name was spelled Pengry, and not until within the last three generations was the orthography changed to its present form. Descendants of these brothers were among the earliest settlers of New Hampshire and, coming down in the family history to the middle of the eighteenth century, the historian finds Aquila Pengry, the grandfather of Charles C., a prosperous owner of a cloth mill—whose motive power was a water-wheel—in the town of Danbury, in that State. Being commissioned a Captain in the State Militia, he was commonly accosted by the title to which his military rank entitled him. He was the father of True Pingry, and he in turn, was the father of Charles C.

True Pingry was born Dec. 9, 1798, on the paternal farm in Danbury, and there grew to manhood. He was a man of considerable mechanical skill and was both carpenter and cooper, as well as an intelligent and industrious farmer. He married Hannah, a daughter of Jacob Favor, of the same town, born June 3, 1797, and was the father of four sons and a daughter: Charles, William, John F., George and Hannah. He was in politics an old-line Whig, and both he and his wife were members of the Free-Will Baptist church. He was a well-educated man, for his time, and for

several years was a successful teacher. About 1832 he removed to Western New York, where he pre-empted and cleared a farm on an Indian reservation in Erie County, sixteen miles from Buffalo, whence, in the fall of 1837, he came to McHenry County, Ill. On reaching that then thinly settled region, he located a claim on a tract of 160 acres of Government land two miles east of the present village of Nunda, the title to which he subsequently perfected. On this trip he was accompanied by his son William, with whose aid he built a typical log cabin with "chinked" walls and huge open fire-place. After spending the winter here, he returned east in the following spring, to bring out his family. The journey was begun in May, 1838, consuming six weeks. A wagon and two horses were the method of conveyance, the travelers halting at night by the wayside, when the wagon was surrendered to the female members of the party, the men and boys camping on the prairie grass. Mr. Pingry proved a successful and prosperous farmer, and died honored and beloved by those living around him, who shared with him the privations and the pleasures of life in the West in those early days.

Charles C. Pingry, his eldest son, with whose life history this narrative has more particularly to do, was born at Danbury, N. H., Sept. 7, 1818. He was but a boy when his father removed from New Hampshire to Erie County, N. Y., yet, at the age of eighty-four, he is able to recall the ride by wagon to Whitehall, N. Y., and the trip through the Erie Canal, with its perpetual recurring wonders. The journey from New York to Illinois was even more full of adventure and interest, the route crossing Ohio and Northern Indiana, passing through Chicago—then little more than a straggling hamlet—and thence following the old stage-road to Algonquin. His first teacher was his father, in whose New Hampshire school he was a pupil, and for a time he attended the district schools of Erie County, N. Y. He was early inured to toil and, with resolute spirit, aided his father in bringing the unbroken soil of the prairies into subjection. In his twenty-eighth year—on Thursday, April 28, 1845—he was married to Eunice Johnson, who was born at Concord, Erie County, N. Y., June 3, 1825, the daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Thurston) Johnson.

Thomas Johnson was of English descent, and born in Herkimer County, N. Y. He was a man of substantial character owning a small woolen mill in addition to a large well improved farm. Mrs. Johnson was born in Rhode Island, and both she and her husband were Free-Will Baptists. Mr. Johnson came to Illinois in "the forties," and, after making a purchase of land, returned to New York. He was twice married, the children of the first union being six sons and seven daughters: Ambrose, Martha, Mary, Sylvia, Calvin, Eunice, Adeline, Jane, Christopher, Alfred, Addison, Josephine and Hiram. His first wife died in 1840 and his second wife bore him three children.

Mrs. Charles C. Pingry (nee Eunice Johnson) was for many years a school teacher, her first experience being acquired as a girl of fifteen years, at Ellicottville, N. Y. About 1841 she came west with her sister Mary and the latter's husband, Sumner Pratt. The Pratts first settled in Lapeer County, Mich., and Miss Johnson filled for three terms the post of pedagogue in the school at Lapeer Village. In 1842 she accompanied her brother-in-law and his family to McHenry County, Ill., where she still pursued her chosen vocation. For a year she was a teacher in a school four miles south of McHenry, and afterwards taught in both McHenry and Nunda Townships. She was famed throughout the country side for her knowledge of orthography, and in the spelling contests with which the farmer-folk of forty years ago were wont to beguile the long tedious winter evenings, she was usually to the fore as "head of the class."

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Pingry settled upon a farm of 160 acres of Government land, the deed to the same bearing the signature of President James K. Polk. Their first home was of the rude sort common to the West in those days. The husband with his own hands hewed the rough logs of which it was constructed. The fire-place was of the capacious old-fashioned pattern, and the chimney of sticks and clay-mortar, instead of stone or brick. Above the living rooms was a loft, reached by a ladder in lieu of stairs. The fire-place took the place of range and heater, and the fire was usually built with a "back-log," large and heavy enough to call for the united energies of two men to put it in place. This was a typical Western home of the period.

Neither bride nor groom supposed for a moment that any self-sacrifice was needed to be content therein; and from these log cabins of the Mississippi Valley have come many of the men who have written their name across the page of the Nation's history and left a lasting impress upon the world. Toil and industry on the part of the husband, no less than care and frugality on that of the wife, were the rule rather than the exception, while mutual love and confidence rendered self-denial easy. Little by little Mr. Pingry has added to his holdings. At one time his farm embraced 430 acres, but sales have reduced its area to 380 acres.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pingry, seven children have been born, two of whom died in infancy. Those who grew to maturity, were: Ellen, Mary, Sumner, Frank and John who died Feb. 16, 1902. Mr. Pingry is a Universalist and his wife a Methodist, yet differences in religious faith have never militated against marital affection. Mr. Pingry is tolerant of all faiths, just as his broad and enlightened charity renders him liberal toward the faults and frailties of all his fellow-men. The love of human liberty—alike of action and thought—has been one of the controlling impulses of his life. An opponent of human slavery, he supported Fremont in 1856 and Lincoln in 1860. A foe to man's servitude to alcohol and realizing the desolation wrought in millions of American homes by the liquor habit, he allied himself with the Prohibition Party in the early days of its organization, but in 1896, believing that the Chicago platform promised the greatest good for the country at large, he supported Bryan for the Presidency.

Reference has been made to Mr. Pingry's success as a farmer. One or two important business ventures of his, however, should not be overlooked. During the Civil War he bought the Algonquin Hotel, which he conducted chiefly in person for twenty-two years. In 1889, when taking up his residence in Nunda, he opened the "Pingry Hotel" and this he operated until 1900, when he retired.

A condensed genealogical summary of the Pingry family may be of interest in this connection. Moses and Aaron Pingry came as Puritan emigrants from London to Ipswich, Mass., in 1640 or 1641. From the will of Aaron, probated in 1696, it would appear that he died



without issue. Moses Pengry (as the family surname was then spelled) married Abigail, a daughter of Robert Clement, who, according to Savage, came from London to Haverhill, Mass., as early as 1642, accompanied by a large family. The town records of Ipswich show that in 1647 Moses Pingry was a commoner, and that three years later he received a grant of forty acres of land. That he was a man of substance and of influence is evidenced by the fact that, in 1652 he established salt-works and, in 1854, was chosen a Selectman. He also sat as a Deputy in the General Court in 1665. He was a man of devoted piety, and a deacon in the First Congregational church of Ipswich. His children were: Sarah, Lydia, Moses, Aaron, John, Thomas, Mehitabel and Abigail. He died Jan. 2, 1696, his wife having died Jan. 16, 1676. Tracing down the line of descent to Charles Clinton, we follow that of Aaron, the son of Moses, who was born in 1652. He was the husband of Anna Richard, of Rowley, Mass., and died in that town on Sept. 14, 1714. His widow survived him until Feb. 3, 1740, when she too passed away at the ripe old age of four score years. His children were: Aaron, born in 1683; Ann, born Feb. 8, 1685; Joseph, born Oct. 17, 1688, and Jane, born Jan. 24, 1691. Aaron removed to Rowley from Ipswich with his parents in 1696, and there on Dec. 17, 1707, he married Elizabeth Pearson, who first saw the light on Aug. 5, 1685. She was a grand-daughter of John and a daughter of Stephen Pearson, and her grandfather's name is remembered through New England as being that of the first mechanic in America to establish a mill for the weaving of cloth, as early as 1643. Her mother's maiden name was Mary French. An uncle of Mrs. Aaron Pingry—John Pearson—served under Captain Lothrop, against the Indians, and died in battle, Aug. 25, 1725. She died May 10, 1746, and Aaron subsequently married Martha Clement, of Middleton, but with the issue of that union this narrative is not concerned. To Aaron Pingry and his first wife, Elizabeth Pearson, were born: Lydia, Oct. 5, 1709; Stephen, Jan. 22, 1712; Rebecca, April 22, 1714; Mary, March 19, 1717; Ann, March 7, 1719; Sarah, April 1, 1721, and Martha.

Stephen Pingry, the second child and eldest son, married Jane, a daughter of Nathaniel Jewett of Rowley. After her death, which oc-

curred May 7, 1752, he married Anna Jewett, their nuptials being solemnized Feb. 7, 1758. Her parents were William and Hannah Jewett. In 1784 Stephen Pingry removed to Fitchburg, where he died ten years later. The children of his first marriage were: Jane, born April 16, 1757; Stephen, born June 3, 1759; Aquilla, born July 30, 1761; Nathaniel, born April 15, 1763; Jonathan, born April 17, 1765; Joseph, born July 2, 1767, and William, born March 15, 1771. The men of the family were famed for their great strength and most of them were long lived.

Stephen (2), the eldest son of this family, was a man of tall stature and deep chest. He served in the War of the Revolution, and in his later years received a pension on account of injuries sustained during that struggle. He was the father of one daughter and two sons—Mary, Aaron and Thomas—both of the latter were soldiers of the Revolution. The father died at Groton, Mass., May 8, 1844. Aquilla was a cloth-maker and was celebrated for his skill as an athlete. He was a man of kindly disposition and social nature, and widely popular. He was a Captain in the State militia and Selectman in the town of Salisbury (now Franklin), N. H., where he located after his first marriage. He died in 1845, at the age of eighty-four. His first wife was Hannah Morrill, whose father served in the army of the Revolution, from 1776 to 1783. His wife died July 7, 1792, in her thirty-first year, having borne her husband three daughters—Hannah, born Jan. 28, 1786; Sarah, born March 28, 1788, and Lydia, born Dec. 12, 1790. On Dec. 10, 1797, he married for the third time, his bride being Dolly Page of Andover, N. H. They removed to Danbury, N. H., where both died; she in 1844 and he the following year. Aquilla Pingry was the grandfather of Charles C. Pingry, whose father was of the issue of the third marriage, mention of whom will be made in a succeeding paragraph. Nathaniel, the son of Stephen, and brother of Stephen and Aquilla, enlisted in the Army of the Revolution when a lad of sixteen years. He died in his eighty-eighth year. Jonathan was born in Massachusetts, but removed to Vermont, where he led the life of a farmer and accumulated a large property. Joseph and William were both born at Rowley, Mass. The latter was noted for his strength and skill in athletic games. Both he



and his brother Aquilla could jump six feet from the ground.

The issue of the third marriage of Aquilla Pingry (to Dorothy Page), was two sons and a daughter. The eldest, True, was born Dec. 8, 1798, and was the father of Charles C. Olgood, the second son, was born Oct. 20, 1800, and Mary, the only daughter, Aug. 28, 1802. She was the mother of twelve children and the grandmother of twenty-five children.

#### DR. JOHN W. PRIMM.

Dr. Primm belongs to one of the oldest families in Illinois. Fifteen years before the first settler in McHenry County had reared his rude cabin, and at a time when all of Central and Northern Illinois was a primeval wilderness, interspersed with virgin prairies, the Primms had settled north of the Sangamon River. The family descends from sterling Huguenot stock, and the name, which was originally written "De-La-Prime," was changed in spelling during the troublesome times of the persecution of the French Huguenots, when the founder of the American branch of the family, a French officer who had renounced the Catholic religion and became a Huguenot, escaped from France into England. Two of his sons, Thomas and Peter Primm, settled in Virginia in the early days of that colony. ,

Thomas Primm (2), the great-grandfather of Dr. J. W., was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and settled in Richmond, Va., where he became a man of substantial property and the owner of slaves. He moved with his family to St. Clair County, Ill., and in 1801, settled in what is now East St. Louis, which was then a French village. His son, Thomas Primm (3), was born in Stafford County, Va., May 11, 1782, and in 1801 moved with his parents to Illinois. He was married at Whiteside Station, March 22, 1807, to Elizabeth Stalling's, born in Wheeling, Va., Aug. 19, 1792, being less than fifteen years of age at the time of her marriage. Her parents moved to St. Clair County, settling at Whiteside Station May 13, 1796. Thomas Primm (3) and wife, during their residence in St. Clair County, became the parents of six living children. In 1820 they removed to Sangamon County, Ill., where they arrived Oct. 8, and here three more children were born. Mr.

Primm settled four miles north of the Sangamon River and fourteen miles northwest of the site of Springfield. The country was then entirely uninhabited, and stretching to the west and north was a vast wilderness, much of which had been but little explored. Mr. Primm located a claim on a large tract of land and afterwards bought 1400 acres of the United States Government. He first built a small log cabin and a few years later a good hewed-log house, which in later years was weather-boarded, and is still in a good state of preservation, the house frame still being in the hands of his descendants. A Mr. Cline and his family moved to Sangamon County with the Primms, and these were the only white families in that region for several years, Mrs. Primm and Mrs. Cline being the first white women to settle north of the Sangamon River. They were surrounded by Indians, and one winter Thomas Primm and Mr. Cline saved several of the tribe from starvation by giving them a supply of pork and corn. At the time of an Indian uprising several of the older members of the tribe took the two families to a place of safety, where they kept them completely isolated and provided with food until peace was restored. Thomas Primm was an excellent type of the pioneer, having been born and reared on the extreme western frontier, thus becoming one of the founders of the high state of civilization which we at the present day enjoy. He passed the whole of his life in a new country, and, at the age of seventy-three years, was accidentally killed by a run-away horse.

William Primm, son of Thomas (3) and the father of Dr. J. W., was born at East St. Louis, 1808. He received but little schooling, but having an active mind, became a well-informed man. In 1829 he was married in Sangamon County to Maria Canterbury, born in Bourbon County, Ky., in 1812, the daughter of Asa and Margaret (Hornback) Canterbury. Asa Canterbury came from English ancestry, but was born in Kentucky, where his father was a pioneer and belonged to a slave-holding family. Asa Canterbury and the family inherited one hundred slaves, to whom they voluntarily gave their freedom. About 1828 Mr. Canterbury removed to Sangamon County, Ill., where he bought 1000 acres of land from the United States Government, which he convert-

ed into one of the best farms in the county, and upon which he lived until the time of his death at seventy-three years of age.

William Primm inherited 150 acres of land from his father, to which he made subsequent additions until he owned 430 acres. In political opinion he was an old-line Whig and an early advocate of Republicanism. He was well acquainted with President Lincoln, when, as a practicing lawyer, he was accustomed to visit at Petersburg, the county-seat of Menard County, and frequently visited the Primm homestead. Mr. Primm supported Lincoln politically from his first attempts to secure a public office until he gained the Presidential chair; and during the Civil War, especially in the days when the "Knights of the Golden Circle" were a threatening evil in many localities, it was upon men like Mr. Primm that President Lincoln relied to keep loyal sentiment alive. Mr. Primm was a member of the Christian church, in which he was an elder for about thirty years. To him and his wife eight children were born: Asa C., Elizabeth, Margaret, William H., Thomas M., Isaac H., John W. and Carlisle P. Mr. Primm died at the age of seventy-six years.

Dr. John W. Primm was born Oct. 23, 1850, received a common school education and attended the North Sangamon Academy. In 1873 he began the study of medicine, having for his preceptor an uncle, Dr. Thomas Primm, of Menard County, who for fifty years was a leading physician in his county and was also President of one of the early medical colleges of St. Louis, Mo. Dr. Primm studied with his uncle for five years, meanwhile acting as assistant in the doctor's practice and also conducting his drug store. He then attended the Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, graduating after a three years' course. His first professional work was in Pittsfield, Pike County, where he remained for three years, afterwards locating at Hannibal, Mo. After completing a course in the Homeopathic Ophthalmic Hospital and College, New York City, he located at Huron, S. D., where he practiced medicine for six years, and then, in 1889, removed to Woodstock, Ill., where he has been uniformly successful in his practice and has maintained a high standard, both as a physician and as a citizen. The doctor has accumulated a val-

uable medical library and is an occasional contributor to medical periodicals. He is a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy, the Missouri State Medical Society and of the Dakota and Illinois State Societies.

The Primms have always been patriotic, having served in every American conflict from the Colonial and Revolutionary wars to those of the present generation. William Primm had three sons who served in the Civil War—Asa, William and Thomas—and a foster son, Kit Anderson, who was Colonel of the Tenth Illinois Infantry. William enlisted in the One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, serving three and one-half years, part of the time as scout, and participating in many battles. Thomas was only seventeen years of age when he enlisted in the Twenty-Eighth Illinois Infantry, and was in all the hard fought engagements of his regiment.

#### PATTERSON PRINGLE.

Patterson Pringle, farmer and early settler of Marengo Township, McHenry County, was born in the village of Dunze, Berwickshire, Scotland, the son of John and Sidney (Patterson) Pringle. John Pringle, the father, was born in the village of Jedburgh, Scotland, Dec. 22, 1780, and was forester on the extensive estate of General Maitland, having charge of the hedges. He and his wife were the parents of eleven children: Elizabeth, John, James, Robert, George, Ann, Margaret, Jessie and two others who died while young. Mr. Pringle came to America from Glasgow, Scotland, by the good ship "William Tell," a sailing vessel, bringing with him his wife and four children—Ann, Margaret, Jessie and Patterson—the voyage to New York occupying seven weeks. The older daughter, who had married William Hewett, had already come over and settled in Kentucky, as had also the sons, Robert, George and John, the first two sons finally coming to Illinois. After reaching New York, John Pringle and family went on immediately to Pittsburg by way of the canal and railroad. The sons Robert and Patterson here bought a flatboat, upon which they loaded the family effects and proceeded down the Ohio River. This was in the fall of the year, and although the river was low and the young men were



without boating experience, and were often stranded on sand-bars, they finally reached their destination at the old pioneer town of Maysville, Ky., the journey of 450 miles occupying three weeks. Going into the country thirty miles from Maysville, they rented a farm upon which they remained three years. In the fall of 1842 they came to Illinois by steamer by way of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, settling in the vicinity of Galena. Here the sons worked for some time in the lead mines, but in 1848 the family removed to McHenry County, locating in Marengo Township, where the sons George and Patterson had bought 350 acres of land. The land purchased by George was well improved and is still occupied by his descendants. That selected by Patterson had little improvement except an old log house. He settled here in 1849 and, by industry and frugal management, transformed his wild land into a well cultivated farm and good home, meanwhile adding to his holding until he is now the owner of 272 acres. October 24, 1849, he was married in Ogle County, Ill., to Isabella Donaldson, who was born within eight miles of Toronto, Province of Ontario, Canada, March 28, 1829, the daughter of William and Isabella (McDonald) Donaldson. Both her parents were natives of Scotland, but had English blood in their veins, the father being a native of Mindrum, Scotland, while the mother belonged to the famous Highland Clan of McDonalds. They were married in Scotland, but after living in England for a time, in 1822 removed to Canada, settling in the woods, where Mr. Donaldson cleared up a farm. Their children were: Walter, James, John, Margaret, William, Isabella, Elizabeth, Jane and Flora—all born in America, except Walter, the oldest, who was a native of Scotland. May 7, 1839, William Donaldson and family left their Canadian home for Illinois, arriving at Buffalo Grove, Ogle County, May 24 following. Mr. Donaldson bought a claim here, finally entering a half section of prairie and timber land at the Government Land Office. This land he improved, becoming a prosperous and well-to-do farmer. This land is still occupied by his descendants. Mr. Donaldson was a Scotch Presbyterian in religious belief, a man of strong character and high integrity. He died on his farm at the age of seventy-five years.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Patterson Pringle settled on his farm in Marengo Township, which he proceeded to improve, erecting upon it substantial buildings. Here their children were born as follows: Isabella Jane, Aug. 20, 1850; Flora Smith, Jan. 22, 1853; John Donaldson, Feb. 3, 1855; William Patterson, Nov. 17, 1856, died April 15, 1893, aged thirty-six years; Mary Ann, Nov. 7, 1858; Sarah Stevens, June 30, 1860, died July 12, 1895; Rachel Elizabeth, Aug. 22, 1863, died a married woman, April 4, 1900, at the age of thirty-seven years; Ethel McDonald, Sept. 19, 1871.

Of the living members of Mr. and Mrs. Pringle's family, Isabella Jane was married Nov. 9, 1891, to Frank M. Elliott, who is an express messenger.

Flora Smith married Dec. 22, 1875, Clinton H. Pease, who is a farmer in Marengo, and they have two children—Bessie and Jessie.

John D. is a farmer living near the home farm; married Nellie O. Watson, May 31, 1881, and they have had children named Madge, two sons named Hall and Patterson (who died in infancy), Gretchen, Dorothy and Jeanette. His wife having died Nov. 17, 1897, on Jan. 18, 1899, he was married to Mrs. Margaret Livingstone, a widow (nee Swanson), and they have one daughter, Margaret.

Mary Ann married Dec. 21, 1881, Henry W. Sears, a farmer now living near Belvidere, Ill., and they have had children named Bertha (deceased), Louie and George.

Sarah Stevens married Oct. 10, 1883, Dr. George L. Boyington, a dentist of Marengo; she is now deceased, leaving no children.

Rachael E. married Dec. 22, 1886, Dr. W. J. Casely; she is deceased, leaving no children.

Ethel McDonald married Nov. 29, 1897, Daniel Echtermach, who is a rural free-delivery mail-carrier, and they have one son, Malcom Gerald.

Mr. and Mrs. Pringle are devout members of the Presbyterian church, of which he has been an elder for nearly fifty years. He is one of the small group of pioneer settlers of McHenry County still surviving, and during his residence of over fifty years, has maintained a reputation for straight-forward integrity and high moral character. The beautiful old home occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Pringle is appropriately called "Woodlawn."



**GEORGE E. PARKS.**

George E. Parks, of Nunda, Ill., belongs to a pioneer family of McHenry County, who were of English and Massachusetts colonial descent. His grandfather, Abija Parks, was born on a farm in Middlesex County, Mass., and married Mary Ferguson, who bore him the following named children: Jonathan Hapgood, Charles H., Samuel, Nancy, Sarah, Ann and Hannah. Mr. Parks spent his life upon his farm, about twenty-five miles from Boston, where he died, aged about fifty-five years. He was a Universalist in religious belief, well-informed and prominent in public affairs, being in early life a member of the State Legislature. His son Jonathan Hapgood, was born at Ashburnham, Worcester County, July 6, 1802, received a superior education for that day, and, having adopted the life of a farmer, on Feb. 12, 1829, was married in Stowe Township, Middlesex County, to Almira Elliott, who was born Nov. 13, 1806, the daughter of Stephen Elliott. Her father was of English descent, through an old colonial family of Vermont, while his daughter was a grand-niece of Gen. Israel Putnam of Revolutionary fame. Two cousins of Stephen Elliott took part in the battle of Bunker Hill, one on the Patriot and the other on the British side. They met on the day of the battle after it occurred and one said to the other: "We gave it to you rather hot this forenoon;" to which the other responded: "No better than you had to take." Mr. Elliott conducted a farm in Stowe Township, Middlesex County, where he died at the age of eighty-two years. His children were: George Alexander, Almira, Mary, Sophia, Louisa, and another daughter, probably named Anna, who married a Mr. Rice. Mr. Elliott was a member of the Universalist church.

Jonathan H. Parks lived on a farm in Stowe Township, Middlesex County, Mass., until 1845, when he removed with his family to McHenry County, Ill., where he arrived Oct. 20, 1845, coming by the Erie Canal and the lakes to Chicago, the journey from Lake Champlain occupying twenty days. He settled in McHenry Township, three miles west of the Village of McHenry, where he bought eighty acres of prairie land. Here he improved a farm, built an excellent frame house and increased his real estate holdings to 100 acres. He spent the

remainder of his life on his farm, dying there July 26, 1857. He was an industrious and reputable citizen, in politics a Democrat and in religious views a Universalist. His children were: George E., Martha, Mary, Sarah, Charles and Hannah.

George E. Parks, the oldest child of this family, was born in Stowe Township, Middlesex County, Mass., June 25, 1830, received a good education in the New England schools, and, at fifteen years of age (1845), came with his parents to McHenry County. Here he attended the district school taught by Robert Tuttle, some of his schoolmates being John and Bernard Rockwood, George Harrison and Richard Thomas Carr. Mr. Parks was reared as a farmer, and, on May 1, 1855, was married in Nunda Township to Charlotte Kimball, who was the first white child born in Elgin. Her parents were Sidney A. and Martha M. (Kimball) Kimball. The Kimball family were of New England colonial stock, this branch of the family coming from New Hampshire. Samuel Kimball, who was the grandfather of Mrs. Parks, was also a native of New Hampshire. His children were: Jefferson, Nancy, Laura, Polly, Nathaniel, Sidney, Frank, John, Fayette, George and Jonathan, all born in New Hampshire. Samuel Kimball came to Illinois with his family in 1833, making the journey from New Hampshire overland with horses and wagons. Another family of the same name came about the same time, built a log house on the bank of Fox River about the site of the present Waverly House in Elgin, and opened there the first tavern in that place. Samuel Kimball and family settled three miles west of Elgin, on what was called Tyler Creek, and they were the first settlers in that locality. He died on his farm there at an advanced age. He was quite a prominent citizen, held the office of Justice of the Peace for a number of years, and had been a Justice of the Peace and member of the State Legislature in New Hampshire before coming west.

Sidney A. Kimball, the father of Mrs. Parks, received a good common school education, came west with his father's family while still a single man, and became a teacher in Elgin. Here he married Martha M. Kimball, who was a native of New Hampshire, and the daughter of Jonathan and Betsy (Flanders) Kimball. The children of Jonathan Kimball and wife were:



Emil Pfeiffer





Martha, Charles, Judith, Lydia, Russell and Luther. Although coming to McHenry County from the same State and about the same time, the respective families of Jonathan and his wife, Martha Kimball, were not closely related. Jonathan Kimball died in Elgin at the age of about sixty years.

After marriage Sidney A. Kimball settled on a farm, but about 1846 moved to what was known as the Philip Hoffman farm, a few years later removing to another farm in McHenry Township, where he lived until his death, at the age of about fifty-two years. He and his wife were Universalists in religious belief. Their children were: Charlotte (now Mrs. Parks), born May 22, 1836; Alonzo, born Nov. 17, 1837; John W., born Aug. 1, 1840; Julia, born Sept. 19, 1842; Jane, born Oct. 6, 1844; Ellen, born April 9, 1847; David, born Sept. 3, 1848; Frank, born Aug. 30, 1849; Edward, born Nov. 10, 1851, and Walter Scott, who died in infancy. Mrs. Kimball died Nov. 14, 1850, and Mr. Kimball, Dec. 17, 1874.

When Mrs. Parks was a child, Elgin was a frontier settlement, and, it is said that about the time of her birth, her father waded Fox River twice to secure the services of Dr. Tift, who lived on the opposite side of the river. At that time the woods along the road were infested by large grey timber wolves, and it was dangerous to be exposed to their attack at night. Mrs. Parks was about ten years of age when her father removed to McHenry County, and was seventeen at the time of her marriage to Mr. Parks.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Parks settled three miles west of the old Parks homestead, where they continued to reside until 1898. Here he prospered and added to his property until he was the owner of 150 acres, on which he had erected substantial farm buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Parks have had the following named children: Libbie C., born Dec. 28, 1857; Emma J., born March 14, 1860; Jonathan H., born Oct. 26, 1862; Etta M., born Feb. 26, 1868, and Miner M., born June 3, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Parks' children are all well educated and are residents of McHenry.

In politics Mr. Parks is a Republican, and cast his early votes for President in support of John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. Both he and his wife are members and liberal sup-

porters of the Universalist church at McHenry.

In 1899 Mr. Parks removed to Nunda, where he bought residence property and has since resided, enjoying in his retirement the respect of a large circle of friends.

#### EMIL PFEIFFER.

One of the well-known citizens of Woodstock, McHenry County, and the head of a reputable family, is Emil Pfeiffer, whose name stands at the head of this sketch. Mr. Pfeiffer is a native of Cook County, Ill., where his father settled in the early '50s, and his life has been spent in his native State.

Lawrence Pfeiffer, the father of Emil, was born in 1817, in Sundhausen (or Sundhofen), in the Province of Alsace, then in France, but as the result of the Franco-German war of 1870, now a part of the German Empire. His parents were farmers, and he received a good education in his native country in both French and German. He was married in his native village to Mary Stahl, who was then only sixteen years of age, and who was born in the same place. Having inherited property from their respective families, they settled there. Mrs. Pfeiffer's parents were the owners of considerable property. In 1851 Lawrence Pfeiffer emigrated with his family to America, arriving in New York whence they came directly to Cook County, Ill., where he bought 160 acres of improved land in the vicinity of the village of Wheeling. After remaining there three years, they removed to Kankakee County, where Mr. Pfeiffer bought an improved farm of 160 acres, and where he died, aged about sixty-one years. Mrs. Pfeiffer also died in Kankakee County. They were the parents of seven children: Mary, Elizabeth, Lena, Caroline, Emil, August, Minnie and Emma. The first three of these were born in Alsace, and the others in Illinois—the birth of Emil occurring soon after the arrival of his parents in Cook County. Of the other children, August died in infancy; Minnie died a married woman, and Emma while still young. Mr. and Mrs. Pfeiffer were Presbyterians in religion, and politically Mr. Pfeiffer was a Democrat. They were frugal and industrious and reared a respectable family.

Emil Pfeiffer was born during the August

following the arrival of his parents in Cook County, in 1851. When he was one month old, the family had an almost tragic experience in consequence of a cyclone which struck the house in which they were living, while the family were seated at the supper-table and the infant Emil lying in his cradle. The house was lifted from its foundation and twisted around by the force of the storm. The older members of the family escaped uninjured, but Emil received a few scratches.

Emil received a common-school education, and, at sixteen years of age, began to learn the blacksmith trade, working at Morris, Grundy County, three years. He then went to Peoria, where he worked for some time in one of the plow-shops. In 1870 he came to Chicago, and was there employed for some months in a carriage factory. In the spring of 1871 he removed to Woodstock, where he engaged for a time at his trade as a blacksmith, but soon took up farm work. On June 1, 1872, he was married, in Queen Ann Prairie, McHenry County, to Christina Herdklotz, who was born Jan. 18, 1852, the daughter of P. J. Herdklotz. Mr. and Mrs. Pfeiffer remained on the Herdklotz homestead and for eighteen years he worked on the farm, when he removed to Woodstock and there engaged in dealing in horses for a time. In 1894 he entered into the saloon business in Woodstock in company with Henry Shay, which he has since continued, his partner at the present time being Peter Nester. They now have the largest saloon in Woodstock, which is conducted in an orderly manner and in compliance with the provisions of law in every respect.

Mr. and Mrs. Pfeiffer are members of the German Presbyterian church. In politics he was formerly a Republican, but during the last two Presidential campaigns, he has acted in co-operation with the Democratic party on national issues. While upon the farm he filled the offices of School Director and Road Commissioner for a time, and was regarded as a prominent and public-spirited citizen.

In 1873 Mr. Pfeiffer bought residence property in Woodstock removing to that place in 1887. In 1891 he erected there a residence in the modern style of architecture and with modern conveniences, where he now enjoys the comforts of a pleasant and attractive home.

Mr. and Mrs. Pfeiffer are the parents of the following named children: Henry Alvin, born June 1, 1873; Emma Katherine, born Nov. 30, 1887; Raymond Peter, born Jan. 19, 1893.

Mr. Pfeiffer is a man of straight-forward character, and has always maintained the reputation in the community of a good citizen. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Pfeiffer are being well educated.

#### JEREMIAH QUINLAN.

Jeremiah Quinlan (deceased), Woodstock, Ill., belonged to one of the most widely known pioneer families of McHenry County, having come to this vicinity with his widowed mother, four brothers and two sisters in 1837. Mr. Quinlan was born at Clonakilty, County Cork, Ireland, Aug. 20, 1821, the son of John and Ellen (Crowley) Quinlan, and lived to be one of the most venerable citizens of Woodstock, his death occurring Feb. 1, 1902. His father, John Quinlan, was a native of County Cork, grew up a farmer and married Ellen Crowley, and they had children named Catherine, Humphrey, Cornelius, John, Dennis, Jeremiah and Ellen—the last two twins. The family were communicants of the Catholic church. The father died in Ireland about 1823, and in 1827 his widow came to America bringing with her her three oldest children. The voyage to Quebec was made in a sailing-vessel, occupying nine weeks and three days. From Quebec the family went to Ottawa, Canada West, where they lived several years. In the meantime, having with the aid of her children earned money to enable her to do so, Mrs. Quinlan returned to Ireland in 1829, to bring over the rest of her family—being unwilling to trust that duty to any one else—the return voyage being made in three weeks less time than her first voyage of two years earlier. Thus this indomitable woman made three trips across the Atlantic in a slow, cramped sailing-vessel without the comforts and conveniences to be found on the great ocean-liners of the present day, each voyage occupying four or five times as long as that now considered necessary. After her return from Ireland, the family remained in Canada until the fall of 1833, when they removed to Oswego, N. Y., and, during the next year, the sons found employment on the canal, then in course of con



Mrs Emil Pfeiffer





struction. In 1837 they removed to Chicago, and have ever since been identified with Illinois history. Mrs. Quinlan was a woman of strong Celtic character, and was one of the first to join in the great exodus of the Irish people which began about 1825. She lived to the extraordinary age of one hundred and three years.

Jeremiah Quinlan was between eight and nine years of age when, on his mother's second voyage to America, he was brought over with the younger members of the family. After the removal of the family to New York he attended school at Oswego and Port Crane on the Chenango Canal, receiving a limited common-school education. Having determined to come west, the family made the journey in a covered wagon from Binghamton, N. Y., to Buffalo, where they took passage on a lake vessel, the "Commodore Perry," to Toledo. They had contemplated settling in Ohio, but having changed their plans, continued their journey from Toledo by land to Chicago, and, the following winter (1837-8), proceeded to Dundee with a view to establishing a permanent home. Here they began the erection of a log-house about two miles from Dundee, on land claimed by an earlier squatter, but a party of settlers, making common cause with the original claimant, under what was known as the "club-right law," tore down the partly-built cabin and summarily dispossessed them. This was during a period when some extravagant claims were being set up on the basis of "squatters' rights," in which the claimants were supported by combinations of the early settlers without regard to any existing laws, either State or National. One object of this combination was to exact from new-comers payment for the privilege of settling on Government land, to which the claimant had no title except that established by plowing a furrow around as large a tract as an ox-team could be driven around in a single day. About this time John Quinlan, the third son, went with John Farrell, to Hartland Township, where he bought from Alexander Smith a claim for a half-section on which a log-cabin had been built and seven acres of land broken, paying therefor \$200. Here the family—all being single at that time—settled, and, as they married and established homes for themselves,

finally became the owners of about 1300 acres, constituting a compact community which bore no small part of the development of McHenry County. Jeremiah Quinlan, still in his "teens" at this time, assisted in improving the new homestead and became personally acquainted with many of the early pioneers of that region—the men who established the first claims, plowed the first furrows and built the first cabins, laying the foundation for the wealth and prosperity which exists here today. In this manner Mr. Quinlan acquired, in this true school of nature, a practical training which has since served him so valuable a purpose in dealing with the realities of life. During this period he spent some time in the old Catholic academy, "St. Mary's of the Lake," in Chicago, and in 1850 made the journey across the plains to California, going by way of Salt Lake City, where he visited the original Mormon temple, and heard the Mormon creed expounded by one of the followers of Joseph Smith. After spending three and a half years mining in California, Mr. Quinlan engaged in buying and selling horses, traveling extensively through Missouri and the West. He finally bought 240 acres of improved land, and his brothers and sisters having married, his mother made her home with him. At first he built a log-house, which he afterwards replaced with a frame dwelling.

On July 16, 1862, Mr. Quinlan was married to Mary Agnes Scully, who was born in New York City, Oct. 29, 1841, the daughter of John and Mary (Duggan) Scully. Her father, who was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1796, was well educated for his day, and while still a young man, came to America, his family remaining in London, England, their place of residence at that time. After coming to New York, he was employed as clerk for a time by the firm of Ferris & Smith. Having married Miss Mary Duggan, in New York City, in 1843 they came to Illinois by way of the lakes, arriving in Hartland Township, August 3. Here he bought forty acres of land upon which there was a log-house, making subsequent additions until he was the owner of 280 acres of unimproved lands, which he bought at the Government price or a small advance. Here he erected a good farm house and became one of the substantial citizens of his township. Mr.

Scully's children were: Margaret, Daniel, Mary and John, all of whom were well educated. Daniel received a liberal education in the Academy of St. Mary's of the Lake and in the Chicago Law School, finally becoming one of the best known Justices of that city. He is now deceased. John M., another son, became a prosperous farmer of Hartland Township, where he reared a large family, and in 1891 removed to Chicago, where he still lives. John Scully, Sr., and wife were prominent members of the Catholic church in Hartland, of which he was one of the founders. He died Oct. 2, 1875, aged about eighty-four years, and his wife May 1, 1887, having reached about the same age as her husband.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Quinlan settled on his home farm, where they remained until May 22, 1895, when they removed to Woodstock, which has since been their residence. By industry and good business management, Mr. Quinlan became one of the successful citizens of Greenwood Township, where he now owns 544 acres of land. Originally a Democrat in political opinions, he has of late years been a supporter of the principles of the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. Quinlan had children named: Nellie, John (deceased), Mary, Daniel, Catherine, Jeremiah, Cecilia, Lucy and Alphonso. In religious belief his family follow the faith of their forefathers, and are members of the Catholic church. Mr. Quinlan was an excellent example of the Celtic American pioneer. He retained his faculties in an eminent degree to the last, and to his retentive memory the seeker after facts of local history of the present day is indebted for many interesting incidents and reminiscences of pioneer life in McHenry County. Since the above was written, Mr. Quinlan died, Feb. 1, 1902.

#### DANIEL F. QUINLAN.

Daniel F. Quinlan, real-estate dealer, Woodstock, Ill., is one of the most prominent among the younger business men of his home city, and a leading real-estate operator of Northern Illinois. Mr. Quinlan was born in Greenwood Township, McHenry County, Ill., Oct. 14, 1870, the son of Jeremiah and Mary A. Quinlan, and grew up among the healthful environments of

the home farm, where he was trained to a life of industry, beginning work upon the farm when old enough to hold the plow. He received his primary education in the district school, and later attended the graded and high school at Woodstock. He then read law for a time in the office of Judge Donnelly, preparatory to engaging in the real-estate business, opening the first office in this line in Woodstock or McHenry County. In order to equip himself more fully for his new pursuit in life, he also took a two years' course in the Chicago College of Law. He found strenuous effort necessary in the first year or two after engaging in business, but by close application and combining perseverance with determined energy, he has succeeded in building up a large and prosperous trade. He has thus become an extensive trader in farming lands, as well as city property of various kinds, and now carries on a large business in this line throughout the West. During the past year his sales have amounted in the aggregate to hundreds of thousands of dollars. Careful and conservative in his methods and in his investigations in reference to real-estate matters, he has proved himself a shrewd and quick trader, his natural sagacity enabling him to see clearly through a complicated business transaction. Having been born and reared in McHenry County, he is intimately acquainted with local conditions. His life has been an open record and, while known to all, he has always maintained a reputation for fair dealing. In political opinions Mr. Quinlan is a strong Republican, and socially is a member of the Hamilton Club of Chicago. Personally he inherits from Celtic ancestry that resistless energy and force of character which has placed his race in the front rank of the most progressive people of the earth. Possessing strong independence of character, he deservedly ranks among the progressive and rising young business men of Northern Illinois.

Mr. Quinlan married April 23, 1902, at Montpelier, Ohio, Mary Grayce Roberts, who was born April 27, 1880, the daughter of James and Abbie (Parkhurst) Roberts.



## CHARLES F. RENICH.

Charles F. Renich is the popular and efficient Postmaster of Woodstock and one of the editors and proprietors of "The Volksblatt" of that city. His parents were Frederick and Catherine (Stein) Renich, the former being a native of the Alpine republic, Switzerland, in Europe. Frederick Renich's parents were also natives of Switzerland, his father being a piano-maker by trade and a resident of Berne for many years. Their children were Emil, Frederick and Edward. The senior Mr. Renich, the father of this family, came to America after his sons had settled here, and reached Pittsburg, Penn., but was never heard of after. His wife died in Switzerland.

Emil Renich, the oldest son, received a university education in his native country, came to New York, and in 1861 enlisted for the Civil War in one of the New York Volunteer Regiments, served through the war and was mustered out in 1865. He was wounded, taken prisoner and confined in the celebrated Libby prison at Richmond. After the war he removed to Chicago, married and reared a family. During some eighteen or nineteen years previous to his death he was in Uncle Sam's employ, in the capacity of a letter-carrier attached to the Chicago postoffice. He died in 1896.

Frederick Renich, the second son, was born in Berne, Switzerland, March 19, 1842. During his boyhood he attended the Industrial School in Berne. He learned the trade of confectioner and was employed as such in different cities of Switzerland, Germany and Denmark, until 1864 when he embarked for this country and came to Chicago, where he enlisted in the Ninth Regiment Illinois Cavalry. In April, 1865, he was mustered out and returned to Chicago, where he engaged in the manufacture of cigars. August 26, 1866, he was married to Elizabeth Stein, of Chicago. In 1867 he removed to Woodstock, where he continued the manufacture of cigars. After fourteen months of wedded life, his wife Elizabeth died, Oct. 24, 1867, in Woodstock. Sept. 22, 1870, he married Katherine Stein, a sister of his former wife, and a daughter of Charles and Magdelene Stein.

Mr. Stein, the father of Mrs. Renich, was a

native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, who came to Chicago in 1835 and was one of the early settlers and a pioneer tavern-keeper in that city. Mr. Stein held the office of Street Commissioner in Chicago at an early date, and was one of the eight founders of the St. Paul's Evangelical Society, the oldest German church society in Chicago. This society now occupies the southwest corner of Ohio and LaSalle Streets with a splendid church edifice. In politics he was a Democrat and contemporaneous with "Long" John Wentworth. He died in Blue Island, Cook County, in 1882, aged sixty-six years. His daughter Catherine, who became Mrs. Renich, was born and brought up in Chicago, and has a vivid recollection of scenes and incidents connected with her girlhood life in that city. Among these is the hearing of both Lincoln and Douglas speak from the balcony of the old Tremont House.

After a career of some twenty years as a wholesale tobacconist and manufacturer of cigars—during which time he employed as high as twenty men at one time, the product of his factory enjoying an enviable reputation—Fred. Renich discontinued the manufacture of cigars. In October, 1885, he became the editor and proprietor of the "McHenry County Volksblatt," since changed to the name "Das Volksblatt." Under his management the paper prospered and secured a wide circulation among the Germans of McHenry and adjoining counties. Mr. Renich was a member of the German Presbyterian church, honest and upright, and highly respected. Politically he was a staunch Democrat, and fraternally a Mason, being a member of Calvary Commandery, No. 25, Knights Templar. During his residence in Woodstock he was a member of the City Council two or three terms, and also a member of the Board of Education. He died of a sunstroke at Rockford, Ill., June 28, 1890, aged forty-eight years, leaving a wife and seven children: Charles F.; Charlotte, now Mrs. P. Benjamin Anderson; Frederick L., now business manager of the newspaper interests; Mary E., at present in her third year as a student at the State Normal Institute at Normal, Ill.; Edward A., a student at the University of Illinois, at Champaign, Ill.; Amanda B. and Katherine, both attending the Woodstock High School.

Charles F. Renich, the oldest of this family, whose name heads this article, was born at Woodstock, Ill., Dec. 19, 1871, and received his education in the public schools of that city. When about 16 years of age he was taken into his father's office to learn the newspaper business, beginning at the bottom. His father having died when he was a little over eighteen years of age, he succeeded to the management of "Das Volksblatt," which he continued until the accession of his brother Frederick to the concern. In May, 1895, he formed a co-partnership with Mr. Benedict Stupfel, of Woodstock, and they established themselves, under the firm name of Stupfel & Renich, in the grocery business. After a few years Mr. Stupfel retired from the business, Mr. Renich continuing it alone. A year later he associated himself in the same establishment with Mr. Stark L. Hart, which firm still continues in business.

In December, 1899, Mr. Renich was appointed Postmaster for the City of Woodstock, receiving his commission from President William McKinley. November 14, 1894, he was married at Barrington, Ill., to Miss Lucy H. Hennings, a daughter of Charles C. and Caroline (Mundhenk) Hennings. Mrs. Renich was born at Palatine, Ill., Sept. 30, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Renich have one child, Florence, born March 14, 1896.

Mr. Renich is a member of the Masonic order, affiliated with St. Mark's Lodge at Woodstock, and also identified with several other orders. In politics he is a zealous Republican and has always taken an active interest in matters political, especially in association with the younger men of his section of the State. His active business career, upon which he entered while many young men of his age were still in school, coupled with his straightforward character, has won for him the confidence of the community and a high degree of popularity, especially among his German fellow-citizens.

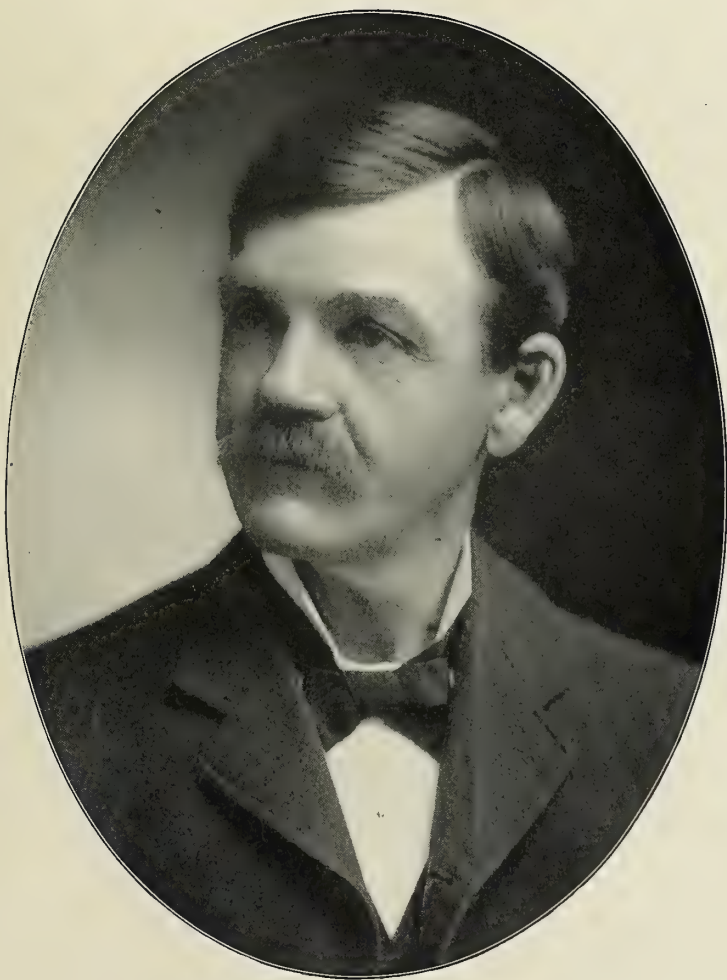
#### GEORGE F. RUSHTON.

George F. Rushton is one of McHenry County's respected and representative citizens; his private character is one to be emulated; his public record is without a blemish. Throughout his life he has been actuated by pure mo-

tives and manly principles, and by following a fixed purpose to make the most and best of himself, he has overcome many difficulties and risen step by step to a place of influence and honor among public-spirited men. A native of the "Badger State," he was born in Walworth County, Wis., Sept. 27, 1855, the son of Charles and Susan (Mabbott) Rushton. He was reared on the farm and, from early boyhood, trained to habits of industry. He received his education in the district school, Sharon Academy and the Northern Indiana Normal College at Valparaiso, Ind. For several winters he taught in the district schools of McHenry County, and worked at farm labor during the intervening summer months. He taught the village school at Alden two winter terms, one term in the village school at Chemung, also one term in Dunham, and the remainder of the time in Alden Township.

In 1881 he engaged in the United States railway mail service, his route being from Chicago to Minneapolis over the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. He continued on this route three years, and was then promoted to a higher grade in the service, and transferred to the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, making the run between Chicago and Green Bay. In 1888 he contracted a severe case of typhoid fever, and for three years did not regain his health sufficiently to resume work, and has never since recovered the degree of health he formerly enjoyed.

In 1893 Mr. Rushton was elected Supervisor of Alden Township and served until 1894. In November, 1894, he was elected County Clerk of McHenry County, on the Republican ticket, by a majority of 1,600 votes, filling this important office so much to the satisfaction of the people that he was re-elected in 1898 by a majority of 2,000, and in March, 1902, received the nomination for a third term. That Mr. Rushton has proved himself to be an efficient officer is best shown by the confidence reposed in him by the electors of McHenry County. In this connection it may be said of him that, in all of his public life, he has studied and endeavored to advance the best interests of his county, and displayed a commendable trustworthiness and fidelity in his official position. Mr. Rushton has been a Re-



*J. H. Rushton*





publican since first taking any part in politics, having cast his first vote for President Hayes. Always a consistent and earnest supporter of his party, his opinions carry weight with them, and he is regarded as an influential adherent of Republicanism. Fraternally he is a member of the Blue Lodge, Woodstock Commandery, the Modern Woodmen of American, Independent Order of Foresters and Court of Honor—all of Woodstock—and also of Bay Tree Camp at Alden. He has held several important offices in his lodges, and, at the present time, is Chief Ranger in the Independent Order of Foresters of Woodstock. Mr. Rushton is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Woodstock, in which he is one of the trustees. He is also a member of a Layman Committee of five, representing Rockford District on publications, and is President of the Grant County Land & Live Stock Company, a company composed of Woodstock capitalists who own a large tract of land in Grant County, South Dakota, and are engaged in raising live stock and grain, and is one of the Directors of the American National Bank of Woodstock, Ill.

Like many other successful men of McHenry County, Mr. Rushton learned, in his youth, to depend upon himself. He spent his boyhood and youth in the usual manner of most farm lads, and when quite young, engaged at farm labor for a small compensation. Personally he is a courteous gentleman and genial towards all who call at his office for business information or a personal interview. He stands deservedly high in the estimation of his fellow-citizens and has done his share in promoting the best interests of McHenry County.

#### CHARLES RUSHTON.

Charles Rushton, one of the highly respected pioneer settlers in Chemung and Alden Townships, McHenry County, is of English birth. He was born at Newark, Nottinghamshire, England, Sept. 8, 1825, the son of John and Ann (Stuffings) Rushton. His parents spent their entire lives in Newark, England, which had been the home of the family for generations.

John Rushton, the father of Charles Rushton, was a wool merchant in early life, and at one time was a well-to-do man, but later lost

his property. September 20, 1821, he married Miss Ann Stuffings, and lived in Newark, but in later life moved to Nottinghamshire, where they passed the remainder of their lives. He died in Nottinghamshire when about fifty years of age, and his wife died at the age of about forty-five. They were the parents of William, born Oct. 20, 1823; Charles, born Sept. 8, 1825, and Sophia, born Feb. 4, 1836.

Charles Rushton received a limited education in the common schools of his native town, and when about eleven years of age, engaged to tend sheep on a farm for sixpence per day. He soon began to work at farm labor and, when a large, strong boy, received about \$15 per year, and later, when a full-grown man, received but \$75 per year for hard farm labor. He continued at this kind of work until he came to America, in the meantime being employed by several different farmers in Lincolnshire. On May 19, 1851, when twenty-six years of age, he married, at Kirby Green, in Lincolnshire, England, Susan Mabbott, born at Kirby Green, the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Kennedy) Mabbott.

Thomas Mabbott was born at Kirby Green, and his children were: Ann, Mary and Susan. He lived to be about sixty-five years of age, and both he and his wife died at the same time and were buried together. The family were all members of the Church of England.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Rushton came directly to America, sailing from Liverpool, England, in a sailing vessel, the "Waterloo Red Star," and were five weeks on the passage. They arrived in New York, July 3, 1851, and came directly to Albany by steamboat, thence by rail to Buffalo, and by lake steamer to Milwaukee, completing the journey with a farm wagon to Walworth County, Wis., where, at Douglass Corners, Mr. and Mrs. Rushton had acquaintances among the early settlers. Mr. Rushton engaged there at farm work for two years and then rented land. He had made two settlements in McHenry County, returning each time to Walworth County, Wis., but in 1866 he made his permanent settlement in Illinois. He rented land in Alden Township two years, then purchased a farm of seventy-three and a half acres, upon which he made good improvements and which he still owns. Mr. Rushton lived on his farm

until 1894, when he retired from active life and then removed to Woodstock. Mr. and Mrs. Rushton were the parents of the following named children, all of whom were born in Walworth County, Wis.: Thomas H., born April 2, 1852; George F., born Sept. 27, 1855; Mary A.; Sarah E., died Oct. 30, 1859, and Carrie M. The parents were both members of the Methodist church in which Mr. Rushton had been a trustee for several years. Politically Mr. Rushton believes in the principles advocated by the Republican party. He has always been an industrious and hard-working man, upright and honest in character. By all his acquaintances he is held in high esteem as a man of honor, and one whose excellent qualities have won for him the confidence and respect of all who know him.

Concerning Mr. Rushton's children, the following is of interest: Mary A. received her educational training at the Sharon Academy and Harvard High School, and later attended the Chicago University. She taught school in Alden Township about five years, in De Kalb eight years, and in Harvey, Cook County, four years. She is now (1903) engaged as a teacher in Woodstock, where she is held in high esteem for her abilities as an educator and her excellent traits of character. Thomas J. Rushton received his education at the Sharon Academy, and at the University of Law of Iowa, and also read law with Judge Smith of Woodstock. He is now a successful lawyer of Elgin, Ill., and has been Judge of the Police Court for several years. Carrie May received a good education at the Elgin Academy, and afterwards remained at home and cared for her mother, who had been an invalid for several years. George F. Rushton is County Clerk of McHenry County. (See sketch in this volume.)

The Rushton family came from the middle class of England, from which many of our best colonial families descended. They were members of the Church of England, and their ancestral records are preserved in the Parish church in England. Mrs. Rushton died Sept. 12, 1902.

#### THOMAS McDONOUGH RICHARDS.

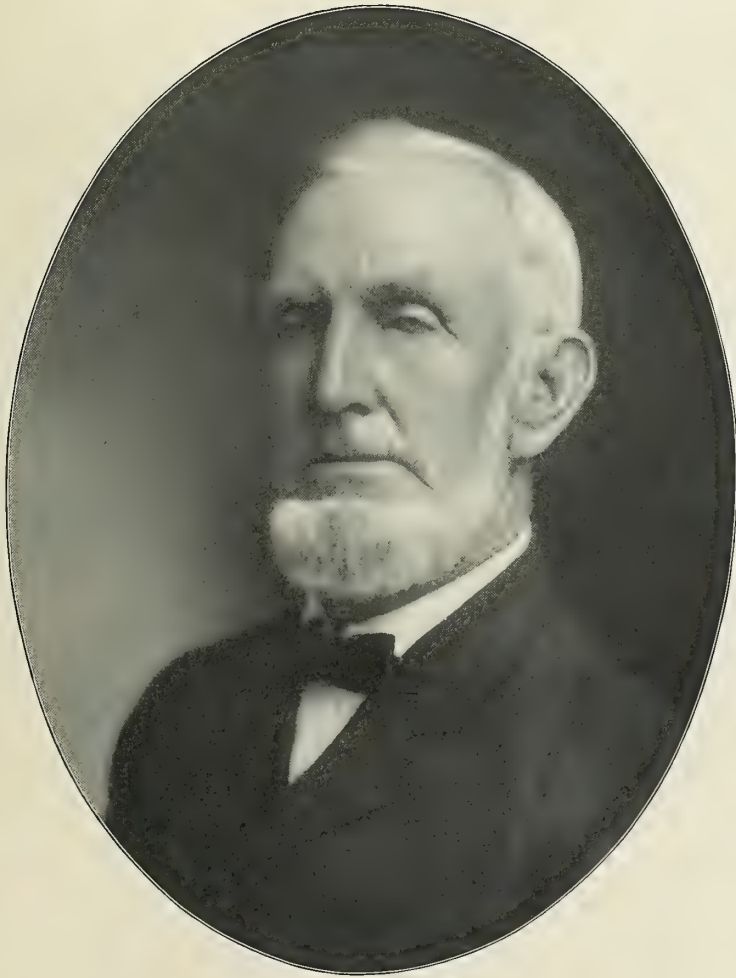
Thomas McDonough Richards, who was an early settler in McHenry County, Ill., and is

at this time a prominent citizen of Woodstock, is descended from colonial ancestors in Massachusetts, who traced their lineage to Welsh and English stock. Ezra Richards, father of Thomas McDonough Richards, was born in Bridgewater, Mass. He located at Plainfield, Hampshire County, Mass., married Martha Nash, and there farmed and worked at his trade as wheel-wright, making many spinning wheels, both large and small. He removed to Hamilton Township, Madison County, N. Y., on a comparatively new farm which he improved, and on which he lived over a half century, until his death in 1884. Besides Thomas McDonough Richards, Ezra and Martha (Nash) Richards had other children named: Rhoda, Noble F., Thomas J., Solomon N., Lawrence C., Jeanette, John B. and Martha A.—all of whom, except Martha A. and the subject of this sketch, were born in Massachusetts. Ezra Richards was a hard-working, strictly honorable man who was highly respected by all who knew him. He was an old line Whig, and always voted the Whig ticket.

Thomas McDonough Richards was born in the town of Hamilton, Madison County, N. Y., April 18, 1819. He received his primary education in the public schools and attended a select school at Earlville three winter terms, and later was a student, during two winter terms of fifteen weeks each, at Clinton Liberal Institute, working on his father's farm between terms. One of his teachers at the institute was Prof. George R. Perkins, author of several books on higher mathematics and a leading mathematician of his day, under whose instruction young Richards made good advancement in his mathematical studies.

In the winter of 1840 Mr. Richards began teaching school at Hamilton, N. Y. In the summer of 1841 he took charge of a school in Brown County, Ohio, where he taught successfully for four years and a half. Several of his Ohio pupils became prominent in after life, among them being Judge Clinton Loudon, a veteran of the Mexican War who served with the rank of Colonel in the Civil War, and was afterwards distinguished as a jurist, and who maintained a correspondence with Mr. Richards during his life. In 1845 Mr. Richards returned to New York State and farmed the





*Thos. M. D. Richards*





*Martha J. Richards.*





family homestead that year. In the spring of 1846 he came to Illinois, journeying as far as Buffalo on the Erie Canal and thence by steamer by way of the lakes to Chicago, arriving at Marengo, McHenry County, in May. He bought 160 acres of land in Seneca Township, one-third of which was quite heavily timbered and the remainder prairie, forty acres of which had been put under the plow. He repaired a log house and made some improvements and, in the fall, went back to Brown County, Ohio, and taught his old school there during the succeeding winter. In the spring of 1847 he came back to McHenry County and was there married on June 14, following, to Julia Antoinette Webb, who was born in Columbia County, N. Y., in 1824. Mrs. Richards' father, S. P. Webb, came of an old New England family and located in New York State early in life. His first wife died in Columbia County, N. Y., and by a second marriage he had children named: Julia A. (Mrs. Richards), George W., Pollie M., Albert and Elias H. The only issue by his first marriage was a son named Sylvester T. During the pioneer days in Wisconsin, Mr. Webb located at Lowville, where he died at the age of eighty years. He was a respected citizen and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Richards brought his bride from her old home in Wisconsin to the home he had prepared for her in Illinois, in a lumber-wagon drawn by two horses, and they were three days on the way. He had journeyed to and fro on horse-back during the days of his courtship, through country so sparsely settled that, at one point, a space of seventeen miles intervened between settlers' houses. They kept house in Mr. Richards' log cabin from 1847 to 1856, when they moved into a new frame house which was then completed. This farm he carried on for 33 years. They prospered so well that in time Mr. Richards came to own about 300 acres of land. Mr. and Mrs. Richards had children named: Ada R., George B., Louis H., Charles L. and Hattie—of whom the last mentioned died in infancy. Mrs. Julia Antoinette (Webb) Richards was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, a woman of rare gifts and a natural leader. An early and prominent member of the "Seneca Ladies' Lit-

erary Society," she served for many years either as its Secretary or President. This society (in 1903 nearly a half century old) is still flourishing, and owns a large and valuable library. Its members, in honor of their former associate and leader, strew flowers upon her grave annually. She was a model teacher for a number of years in the Infant Class in the Franklinville Methodist Episcopal Sunday School. During the war of the Rebellion two of her brothers rendered valuable service in the field to the cause of the Union. To know her always led to respect and admiration of her character. Her hand and brain were employed for the public good and, under her leadership, the Ladies' Literary Society and citizens of Seneca, during the Civil War, sent many a parcel to comfort and cheer the "Boys in Blue."

Mr. Richards' second marriage was in 1883 to Martha J. (Williamson) Streets, widow of John W. Streets, who died in 1876, at Crete, Ill., where his wife had been reared. Previous to her last marriage she was a resident of Seneca and a near neighbor of Mr. Richards. She took a prominent part in social affairs and became a leading member of the Ladies' Literary Society, as the first Mrs. Richards had been before her. She was also an active member of the Chautauqua Assembly of Monona Lake, Wis., for a number of years. Her death occurred August 17, 1897.

Mr. Richards retains his mental faculties to a wonderful degree and has lost none of his old enthusiasm for mathematics. His interest in the public schools of Seneca Township was active and beneficial, and he assisted in forming a large district, where he was School Director for twenty years. In 1854 he was elected County Surveyor of McHenry County and filled that office two years. By request of the Supervisors he purchased and kept the first Surveyor's Record of McHenry County. He has been several times appointed Deputy County Surveyor, and is serving in that position at this time under County Surveyor C. H. Tryon, and from time to time does active work in the office. He has several times been Supervisor of his township and has, in all ways at his command, encouraged its development and prosperity.

George B. Richards, son of Thomas McDonough Richards, was born in McHenry County, Jan. 2, 1850, and was educated in the district schools, the high school at Sycamore, Ill., and the State University at Champaign, Ill. At twenty years of age he began teaching in the district schools of Seneca Township. He did farm work during the summer months until he completed his education. He married in Seneca Township, April 8, 1874, Miss Ida Chase, who was born in the State of New York, a daughter of Isaiah G. and Amanda (Hoyt) Chase. For a time after his marriage he was a merchant at Rowley, Iowa. Returning to Illinois he bought the interest of his brother Charles in the Richards homestead, on which he lived until 1896, when he was elected Circuit Clerk and Recorder of McHenry County. He is a Republican, influential in county politics, having served as Township Clerk, and for twelve years Supervisor of Seneca Township, and several terms as tax collector. He is a Knight Templar Mason, of Calvary Commandery, No. 25, Woodstock, and has held all offices in Saint Mark's Lodge, No. 63, A. F. & A. M., including those of Junior and Senior Warden and Master; has passed the chair of Noble Grand in Coral Lodge, I. O. O. F., Woodstock; and is a member of the orders of Foresters, Modern Americans, Court of Honor and Knights of the Globe. George B. and Ida (Chase) Richards have children named Charles A., Edith, Don, Effie, Lynn W., Waite W., Ada and J. Glenn.

#### FREDERICK ROWLEY.

Frederick Rowley, an early settler of McHenry County, is a son of Amos Rowley, one of the pioneer settlers of Du Page County, Ill. The Rowley family were among the early settlers of New York, and the grandfather, Amos Rowley, was a farmer in Chenango County of that State. His children were: Joseph, Jacob, Solomon, Joel, Judah, William and Amos.

The father, Amos Rowley, was born in Chemung County, N. Y., raised on a farm, received a common-school education and married Lucy Ann Vaughn, who was born in Chemung County. Her parents were of Holland-Dutch and Scotch ancestry and were early settlers of New York. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Rowley settled on the old Rowley

homestead in the town of Big Flats, Chemung County, N. Y., which is still in the possession of their descendants. They were the parents of Dyer, Frederick, Elizabeth, Vincent, Amanda, John, Charles and Mary Ann. Mr. Rowley moved to Illinois about 1840, making the journey with horses and wagon to Buffalo, where he shipped his team by way of the lakes to Chicago, the family coming by the same route as far as Milwaukee. The children being taken sick at Milwaukee, the family were obliged to stop there and finish the journey by wagon to Du Page County, where Mr. Rowley settled on land two miles west of Naperville. After making this his home for two years, he moved to Algonquin Township (now Crystal Lake), McHenry County, afterwards purchasing land in Nunda Township, which is the farm now owned by his son Charles. Mr. Rowley made extensive improvements upon his land and enjoyed the comforts of a pleasant home during the remainder of his life, dying at the age of sixty years. Mr. Rowley was an industrious and reputable citizen and was a member of the Baptist church for more than fifty years.

Frederick Rowley, born in Chemung County, N. Y., was reared on a farm and was about sixteen years of age when his parents came to Illinois. He was fond of hunting, and on his journey to Illinois traded a watch for a gun, from which he derived a great deal of pleasure killing prairie chickens and other game. He attended the public school at Crystal Lake, Dr. Ballou of Nunda being his teacher, and in Nunda Township, Feb. 10, 1853, he married Charlotte A. Palmer, born at Portage, Livingston County, N. Y., July 3, 1863, the daughter of Gustavus A. and Henrietta (Gerheart) Palmer, a family of Puritan ancestry and among the early settlers of Connecticut.

Gustavus Palmer was a farmer in Livingston County, N. Y., and a native of the same State. He and Mrs. Palmer were the parents of John H. and Charlotte A. In the fall of 1841 they moved from New York to Crystal Lake, Ill., making the journey in three weeks with a team of horses and a covered wagon, shipping their goods by way of the lakes. Mr. Palmer first entered eighty acres of land, upon which he built a small frame house and through industry, economy and good management, added to his original purchase until he owned over 300 acres. He lived on the old home-





*Julia A. Richards.*



stead the remainder of his life, dying in December, 1884, aged eighty years. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Rowley moved to Iowa, starting from Nunda Township, June 16, 1853, with a team of horses and covered wagon, and taking with them all the provisions they could carry besides several necessary household utensils, including a cook-stove, which they bought in Elgin, Ill. Mr. Rowley had eighty dollars in cash and Mrs. Rowley about twenty dollars, which had been given her by her father. They crossed the Mississippi River at Dubuque, Iowa, arriving at their destination July 2, 1853, after a journey of three weeks from Nunda Township. On the way they enjoyed the hospitality of friendly settlers with whom they spent their nights. Here Mr. Rowley bought a claim (second-hand) consisting of 300 acres at \$1.25 per acre, after making the first payment having but five dollars left, built a log cabin, and he and his helpful wife went cheerfully to work to build up a home. Game was plentiful; seldom a day passed without deer being in sight, and Mr. Rowley being an expert marksman, venison constituted their meat for a long time. The first meat for domestic use they had was half of a pig's head, which Mr. Rowley obtained by walking seven miles. Fortunately they carried their seed potatoes with them and during the first season raised a good crop. Postage in those days was very high, and owing to the scarcity of money, news from home was not frequent. Mr. Rowley hauled the first load of lumber from Yellow River to Waukon, Alamakee County, Iowa, which was used in building the first store at Waukon. Wages were very low, and Mr. Rowley worked with a good team through the first winter at \$1.50 per day. They were among the first settlers and enjoyed pioneer life immensely. They found the people friendly and hospitable, and the remembrance of their struggles in Iowa is a source of great pleasure. They were there during the Indian troubles and during the Civil War, when many of the settlers sought shelter in the neighboring towns and forts, the women and children being taken to places of safety while the men guarded their homes and other property. Mr. Rowley and his wife spent sixteen years here, during which he improved his farm, but in 1858 sold out and returned to Illi-

nois, where he purchased 140 acres of land in Nunda Township, and 130 acres in Dorr Township. He and Mrs. Rowley lived here until 1899, when they moved to Nunda and retired from active life. They are the parents of three children: Henry, Lucy and Emma. In politics Mr. Rowley is a Republican.

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#### JOHN F. RANDALL.

John F. Randall is a son of one of the pioneer settlers of Rutland, Kane County, Ill., and a descendant of the old Randall family of New York. The father, Dr. Joseph Randall, was born in Orange County, N. Y., about 1795, and there he married Eleanor Fowler, born in the same county in 1799, and whose ancestors had long been settled in that State. Dr. Randall first settled in Orange County, and about 1825 moved to Canada, where he lived about fifteen years on a farm near Toronto, when he removed to Michigan and settled on land near Detroit. In June, 1840, he moved to Kane County, Ill., and bought 100 acres of land from the United States Government. He improved this land, erected on it good buildings and added to the original purchase until he owned 146 acres. Dr. Randall was one of the pioneer physicians of Kane County, and, in the pioneer days, practiced over an extensive territory. He was famous for his skill in the treatment of children's diseases, and was well known throughout his section. He died on the farm aged about sixty-nine years. The Doctor was a member of the Methodist church when young, but later united with the Congregational church. Politically he was a Republican, but previous to the organization of that party, an old-line Whig. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and served on Staten Island in the defense of New York City. His brothers and sister were named: James, John, William, David and Katie. Dr. and Mrs. Randall were the parents of ten children, who, in the order of their birth, were named as follows: Mary, Matilda, Jane, James, Eleanor, Felix, Joseph, Catherine, William, John and Jacob.

John F. Randall was born near Toronto, Canada, May 27, 1836, and came to Michigan with his parents when about two years old. The journey was made with a wagon and a yoke of oxen, the parents being accompanied by all of their children, except Mary, who was



then a married woman, William who died in infancy, and Jacob who was born in Illinois. The family camped out of nights during the journey. Dr. Randall had built a log house on his land in the early spring before the family moved, but it had no roof, floor or door, and the mother and children slept in the ox-wagon for some time after their arrival. John Randall remembers the pioneer school, taught by Alexander Adams, which he attended when only eight years old. Among his schoolmates were Felix and Joseph Randall. Mr. Randall attended the district school during the winter season, until he was about twenty years of age, and then spent one term at the Marengo Academy. He then taught school in his home district one winter term. Mr. Randall was brought up on a farm and married at Elgin, Ill., Oct. 6, 1862, Esther A. Huntington, born June 3, 1844, at Harmony, McHenry County, Ill. the daughter of Calvin and Ann Lida (Braught) Huntington.

Calvin Huntington was born in Oneida County, N. Y., July 29, 1806, the son of Calvin, Sr., and Elizabeth (Campbell) Huntington. The Huntingtons were of old colonial Puritan stock, and emigrated from England.

Calvin Huntington, Sr., moved as a pioneer from Vermont to Oneida County, N. Y., and cleared up a farm. In his old age he came to Illinois with his son Calvin, and died in McHenry County, when about seventy years old. His children were: William, Luther, Levi, Alma, Phoebe and Ruth. Mrs. Huntington died at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Huntington were members of the Methodist church.

Calvin Huntington, the father of Mrs. Randall, received a common-school education and learned the carpenter's trade. He married in Oneida County, N. Y., Ann Lida Braught, born in New York State, of Holland-Dutch parentage. Their children were: Harriet, Alfred, who died at about two years of age; Almira, Hannah, George, Emily, Esther, and three others (Eunice, Amanda and John Calvin), who died when young. Mr. Huntington settled in Oneida County, N. Y., and later, in 1837, moved to Illinois, making the journey by the lakes to Chicago, and thence by team to Harmony, Coral Township, McHenry County, where he made a claim of 120 acres of land, partly timber and partly prairie, which he

afterwards bought of the United States Government. At first he built a log shanty and later a log house, in which he lived for several years, and then built a frame house. Mr. and Mrs. Huntington were both members of the Methodist church. The pioneer school house was built on Mr. Huntington's land, and in it the early Methodist meetings were held. Previous to this, however, the earliest Methodist circuit-rider preached in the Huntington log cabin. Mr. Huntington was an early class-leader, otherwise taking an active interest in the church and liberally assisting in building the first Methodist church edifice in Harmony. He lived to the venerable age of ninety-one years, and died Dec. 31, 1897. When Mr. Huntington first settled in Coral Township he had no neighbors nearer than three miles. One son, George Huntington, served in the Civil War, being mustered into the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and serving to the end of the war. He participated in many battles and veteranized after the expiration of his first term of enlistment. Felix Randall, a brother of John F., also served during the war in a Missouri regiment.

Mr. and Mrs. Randall settled after marriage in Rutland and lived there until 1871. They added to their farm until they owned 186 acres. In 1871 they moved to Huntley where they built a pleasant residence, in which they still reside. Both Mr. and Mrs. Randall have been members of the Methodist church for more than thirty years, and have always contributed liberally towards its support. Their children are: Lida E. and Helen G., besides three who died in infancy. Politically Mr. Randall is a Republican and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. He is a well-known citizen and held the office of Police Magistrate for two years.

#### DAVID REDPATH.

David Redpath, Civil War veteran and prominent farmer, Marengo, McHenry County, is a substantial citizen of the place, owning several large, well-improved farms, from which he is deriving a good income. He was born Feb. 15, 1845, the son of Alexander and Ann (Pringle) Redpath.

David Redpath (1), grandfather of David (2), whose name heads this sketch, was a Scotchman by birth, who, in his native country, followed farming. He married and had four

children, all of whom settled in America: Robert, near Brantford, Canada, where he died, leaving one child Emma; David, in California, where he drove with an ox-team, and where he died, leaving, it is believed, two children; and Sarah, who married a Mr. Hudson, and settled in Michigan. Alexander is mentioned below. The parents of these died in Scotland.

Alexander Redpath, father of David (2), a mine owner and farmer, was a man of good ability and great energy. Born in Scotland in 1811, he there received a good common-school education, evincing a taste for good literature and mathematics. In 1838, at the age of twenty-seven, he came to Canada, where he met Robert Pringle, with whom for many years he was associated as a laborer. After a short stay in Canada, they went to New Orleans, and from there to Bath County, Ky., where they remained several years, filling during this time a contract on a turnpike. Severing the connection with Mr. Pringle, Mr. Redpath later went to Ohio, where he assisted in the construction of another turnpike; but soon afterward, urged by Patterson Pringle, he returned to Kentucky, and entered into negotiations for some lead mines in Illinois, eighteen miles from Galena. Making a success of the venture, they engaged in lead-mining for about eight years. Coming to McHenry County in 1845, Mr. Redpath purchased a partly improved 120-acre tract of land (one-half of the Enos Pease farm) two and a half miles northeast of Marengo, where he settled in 1847, and engaged in farming. He greatly improved his property, erecting on it good buildings, and here remained for the rest of his active life. He died on his farm in 1877 at the age of sixty-six years.

About 1842 Mr. Redpath married Ann Pringle, daughter of John and Lydia Pringle. Mrs. Redpath, who was a devout member of the Presbyterian church, died in August, 1898. Of this union there were six children: Sidney, born in Elizabeth, Ill., died there at the age of two years; David, mentioned below; John P., born on the Marengo farm, in 1848; Sarah, born in 1850; Robert, born in 1853, and George W., in 1860. John P. and Sarah both died in 1856.

Mr. Redpath's successes were due to his courage, untiring energy, and happy faculty of readily grasping the opportunities life offered.

He was a man of strong religious convictions, and one of the original first thirteen members of the First Presbyterian Church of Marengo. He carried his religion into the every day affairs of life, was a good citizen, and a man of absolutely abstemious habits.

David Redpath (2) was taken to the Marengo farm when about two and a half years old, and in the common schools of that neighborhood received his early education, which he later supplemented by a year's course in a high school, the same period at Dr. Miller's select school, and one year in Clark's Seminary—now Jennings Seminary, Aurora. Reared to farm work, upon reaching manhood he made that occupation the main business of his life. At Marengo, May 1, 1864, he enlisted as a private in Company F., One Hundred and Forty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for one hundred days' service. Much of the time of service of the regiment was spent on guard duty, about Columbus, Ky., finally receiving its discharge at Chicago, after serving five months.

In Marengo Township, March 26, 1872, Mr. Redpath married Jeannette Purves, who is mentioned more fully under the sketch of Andrew and Eliza (Swift) Purves. Mrs. Redpath died about three and a half years after marriage, and in Woodstock, Sept. 13, 1879, he was married to Mary A. Lindsay, who was born in Dorr Township, Oct. 15, 1845, the daughter of Thomas and Marian Lindsay. (See sketch of Thomas and Marian Lindsay elsewhere in this volume.) By the first marriage there were three children, all of whom have now reached maturity: Lizzie Ann, who was reared by her grandmother Redpath; Grace, by her mother's sisters, the Misses Purves; and William P., who was but three days old when his mother died, and was reared by his grandmother Redpath. By the second marriage there were also three children: Charles L., Maggie M. and Fannie.

About 1870 Mr. Redpath purchased of the Government 160 acres of wild land in Polk County, Neb., where he erected a comfortable frame house, and here, after his first marriage, he settled, and began making improvements. Another 160 acres joining the first tract he homesteaded, making another valuable farm. After the death of his first wife, he returned to Marengo, and there engaged in selling wood for some time with good results. Then in



1883 he purchased the family homestead, where he settled and followed farming successfully for about fifteen years. In 1899 he returned to Marengo, buying a pleasant home there, where he still lives. He has since purchased the old home farm two and a half miles north of Marengo, which he has improved, and which, embracing 144 acres, is now considered one of the most valuable pieces of property in the vicinity. As a farmer he has been a prudent manager, and has kept steadily on the up-hill road. Besides his property in McHenry County, Ill., he still owns his two farms in Nebraska, from which he derives a good income.

Mr. Redpath has evinced practical common-sense in his business methods. He was a good soldier, and has won deserved respect as a citizen. While in Nebraska he served as Postmaster of Redville, an office now discontinued. The Presbyterian church of Marengo counts him among its most esteemed and substantial members. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party.

#### HORACE G. READING.

Horace G. Reading, of Solon Mills, McHenry County, is descended from one of the early settlers of McHenry County, with which the family has been identified for the last half century. His father, William A. Reading, born at Hackettstown, N. J., Sept. 17, 1822, was of German descent and a wagon-maker by trade. Having lost his father by death in childhood, he went at an early age to the State of New York, in the meanwhile receiving only a moderate education. In January, 1850, he married at Spencer, Tioga County, N. Y., Sarah E. Giles, who was born at that place Dec. 12, 1827, the daughter of Horace and Esther Giles. Mr. Giles was an officer in the State militia and known as Colonel Giles.

After marriage William A. Reading settled near his wife's parents in Tioga County, where he engaged in business as a wagon-maker. In 1853 he moved to McHenry County, Ill., by way of Chicago, going directly to Woodstock, where he soon after bought a farm two and a half miles south of Woodstock. This he afterwards sold and, in the spring of 1858, bought the farm on which his son Horace G. now resides. Mrs. Reading died Sept. 7, 1862, and in October, 1863, Mr. Reading married, in Woodstock,

Emma C. Orvis, the daughter of Simeon Orvis. The children by the first marriage were: Horace G., Montgomery D., William F. and Sarah E., and those by the second marriage, Simeon A. and Angeline A. Politically Mr. Reading was a Democrat.

Horace G. Reading was born on the Giles homestead, in Tioga County, N. Y., Oct. 4, 1850, and was three years of age when his parents moved to McHenry County. Here he grew up among the pioneer residents of the locality, receiving a common-school education, and was early initiated into the life of a farmer. When he had reached eighteen years of age, he began to work out for wages, and when about twenty-one he worked at LaGrange, Ill., for some eight months; then, returning to Solon, McHenry County, he began farming on rented land. He was married Oct. 4, 1876, at Woodstock, to Alice Effie Gardner, who was born near Solon Mills, Sept. 21, 1858, the daughter of Alexander and Sallie (Miller) Gardner. Alexander Gardner was born in Renfrewshire, Scotland, Jan. 31, 1812. When about four years of age he came with his parents to Dundee, Canada, and entered the United States in 1835. He married Sally Miller at Miller's Grove, in 1839, and settled in McHenry County. Mrs. Gardner was born in New York State, on the banks of the Susquehanna River, April 18, 1819, and spent the early years of her life in Southern Indiana. She came with her brother to Miller's Grove, Cook County, Ill., in 1833. This was two years before the expiration of the Indian Rights in this region, and for more than a year she saw no white woman except her mother and her sister. She died at Woodstock, Jan. 30, 1873. Mr. Gardner was one of the gold-seekers in 1849, spending three years on the Pacific Coast. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Gardner were: Mary, Jesse, Mercy Ann, Alexander, Alice Effie and Levi Addison. Mr. Gardner died at his home in Woodstock, Ill., June 5, 1875.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Reading settled on a farm northwest of and near Solon Mills, where they continued to live nearly two years. On Feb. 14, 1879, he bought forty acres of the "Weller farm," and later sixty acres of the "Andrew Bowen farm," increasing his real estate in 1898 by the purchase of eighty acres of the old Reading homestead, upon which he now resides. He has won a reputation in



the community for industry and business energy, which has been rewarded by success.

Mr. and Mrs. Reading have had two children: Walter F., born Sept. 12, 1877, and Alice E., born Dec. 19, 1879. Walter F. is a graduate of the Hebron High School and is a practical farmer. He married Sadie Jones of Dodgeville, Wis., Dec. 31, 1898, and they have two children, Gladys and Effie. The daughter Alice E. is a graduate of the Richmond High School, class of 1898. In politics Mr. Reading is a Republican and is a representative citizen of his township.

#### WILLIAM REED

William Reed, retired farmer, Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., was born Feb. 22, 1825, at Leeds, England, the son of James and Ann (Hall) Reed, who became early settlers of McHenry County, Ill. James Reed, the father, was a cloth-dresser in a woolen mill at Leeds, and belonged to an old Yorkshire family. His children, all born in Yorkshire, were: William; John; Elizabeth, who married Elijah Bower; Mary, became the wife of John Sills; Sarah, married George Turner, and Martha, married John Jones and died in Jersey City, N. J.

James Reed, the father, came to America in 1840, bringing his family with him and making the journey from Liverpool to New York in a sailing vessel, the voyage across the Atlantic, on account of stormy weather, occupying a period of three months. After his arrival in America, Mr. Reed first located at Northampton, Mass., where he was employed for a short time in a woolen mill, but later removed to Southbridge, where he worked two years. In 1843 he came west by way of the lakes to Southport—now Kenosha—Wis., thence going to Richmond Township, McHenry County, Ill., where he settled on a tract of 160 acres of land. This land was entirely unimproved, and was finally entered by him at the Government Land Office at \$1.25 per acre, besides forty acres, which he entered for his son William. Mr. Reed improved his land, erected on it good buildings and had begun to acquire more property, when, in 1846, he died at the age of about sixty-five years. He was a member of the Church of England, an industrious citizen and reared a respectable family.

William Reed, the subject of this sketch, re-

ceived a common school education in England and, at the age of twelve years, began working in a woolen mill in his native city of Leeds. He was about fourteen years of age when his parents removed to America, and he has a lively recollection of the voyage across the Atlantic. Soon after coming to America he began working in a woolen mill at Southbridge, Mass., where his father was employed, later accompanying his parents to Illinois, where, as already stated, his father entered forty acres of land for him. He then worked with his father in improving the farm, and, on the death of the latter some three years after coming to Illinois, being the oldest male member of the family, assumed charge of the farm and family affairs.

When about twenty-seven years of age Mr. Reed was married at Tryon's Corners, McHenry County, to Sarah Sargent, who was born in Cornwall, England, the daughter of Stacy and Sarah Sargent. The father, Stacy Sargent, who was a sailor in his native country, died there, leaving some property, after which his widow came to America with her two daughters, Sarah and Mary. Mrs. Sargent married Jacob Valkenburg in New York State, and they later came to McHenry County, Ill., where they settled on a tract of eighty acres of land near Tryon's Corners. Still later they removed to the State of Missouri, where she died.

William Reed and wife, after their marriage, bought sixty acres of land in Wisconsin on the state line just north of McHenry County, and, after living there three years, returned to McHenry County, locating near Tryon's Grove. Here he bought eighty acres of land, and, on the removal of Mrs. Reed's mother to Missouri, bought her farm, then amounting to 140 acres. By persevering industry and good management during the next few years, he made several other additions to his landed estate until he was the owner of about 400 acres located in Richmond Township. Besides this he is the owner of a block of two acres in the village of Richmond, a house and lot in Ringwood and a 100-acre farm northeast of Woodstock, making a total of over 500 acres in McHenry County. Mr. Reed has prospered as the result of his strenuous industry, business sagacity and frugal habits. He and his wife are the parents of the following named children: Samuel;

James, who died a married man at the age of thirty-two years; William H.; Elsie, who married Chester Valentine, and Frank. All the children still living are settled on land given them by their father.

In politics Mr. Reed is a Republican and in religious belief and association a Methodist. Of frugal and industrious habits, he has spent his life quietly following his occupation as a farmer, and has never aspired to or held office. Mrs. Reed died in July, 1897, and, on Oct. 16, 1902, he was married to Octavia Alvira Otis, who was the widow of Ebenezer Widger Otis, and the daughter of Charles Joseph and Betsy E. (Phorf) Williams. Her father, Charles J. Williams, was born Oct. 23, 1788, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812 under Gen. William Henry Harrison, during which he participated in the recapture of Detroit from the British and their Indian allies. He also took part in the naval engagement with the British on Lake Erie. He was a carpenter by trade, and a class leader and local preacher in the Methodist church. He lived in Richmond Township, McHenry County, a number of years, later he became a resident of Antioch, Lake County, Ill., but finally removed to Berrien County, Mich., where, after a residence of fourteen years, he died, aged eighty-three years. His children were: Elizabeth, John, Susan, Sarah, Caroline, Ellen, Benjamin, Frances, Mariah, Charles, Octavia, Guy and Melissa—all of whom grew up to be respected citizens. Benjamin served as a soldier during the Mexican War, and died on his way home at Covington, Ky.

Octavia A. Williams, now Mrs. Reed, was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., July 28, 1836, and was nearly thirteen years old when her father came to Lake County, Mich. She married Ebenezer Widger Otis three months before she had reached her thirteenth year, and they settled on a farm of forty acres in Antioch Township, Lake County, and here the following named children were born: Benjamin C., Mary J., Betsy E., Sarah Amanda, Charles W., William R., Emma J. and Ebenezer W., and here Mr. Otis died, aged seventy-one years. Soon after the Civil War, Mrs. Reed (then Mrs. Otis) went to Texas, where she was for fifteen years a trained nurse, during that time traveling extensively over the State and

having many remarkable experiences. In the meantime she saved considerable money.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed now reside in Harvard, McHenry County, where they have a good property.

#### WILLIAM S. ROSS.

William Swain Ross, a pioneer farmer of Coral Township, has proved himself a man of business capacity and energy, and has figured prominently in the public affairs of his locality. His intelligence, industry and thrift—traits which have thus brought him to the front—he has undoubtedly inherited from his well-bred and sturdy Scotch ancestors.

The family was a noted one in Scotland and had a coat of arms, inscribed with the motto, "I abide my time." Representatives of the family in this country have been numerous, and have intermarried extensively, but have always been a healthy, vigorous race. The particular branch with which we have to deal is descended from one of four children, the sons being George, William and John, who came from Scotland to America at an early date. Margaret, a daughter, who remained in Douglas Balniel, Scotland, married James Dalrymple, Lord Viscount Stair, and she numbered among her grandchildren the famous leader of the Commonwealth, Oliver Cromwell. Her daughter, Janet, who was at one time engaged to Lord Edgar Rutherford, the third, of Ravenswood, eventually married David Dunbar, a baronet, of Baldoon.

William Ross, a descendant of one of the three brothers mentioned above, and great-grandfather of both Mr. and Mrs. William S. Ross, was a pioneer settler of Monroe County, N. Y. Shortly after the American Revolution he moved by ox-team to Penfield, N. Y., where he settled upon a tract of wild land and began to make improvements. This place he eventually converted into one of the most productive farms in that vicinity, where he became one of the substantial citizens. He died in Penfield and is buried in the cemetery there, where, during the past century, nearly two hundred of his kinsmen have been interred. In early manhood Mr. Ross married Sarah Coon, and they had eight children: Samuel, the maternal grandfather of both Mr. and Mrs. William S. Ross; William, the paternal grandfather of



Mrs. William S. Ross; Nathan, Thomas, Charles, Benjamin, Sallie, who married Samuel Primer; Abigail, who married a Mr. Worthington, and Libbeus, who is mentioned below.

Libbeus Ross, grandfather of William S. Ross, and a farmer by occupation, was probably born in Rhode Island. While a young man he married and became the father of eleven children: William C., born in Preston, R. I., July 1, 1785; Peleg, born in New Marlborough, Mass., Sept. 25, 1787; Deborah, born Jan. 1, 1788; Abigail, born in Sheffield, Mass., Aug. 4, 1789; Libbeus, born Jan. 22, 1782; Rhoda, born Aug. 11, 1793; Thaddeus, born March 10, 1796; Justus, born Oct. 22, 1797; Hannah, born Aug. 18, 1801. Some years after marriage Mr. Ross moved by ox-team to Penfield, Monroe County, N. Y., where he settled upon a tract of timber land and began making improvements. Energy and good management enabled him in time to convert the wild tract into well-tilled fields, and he in time became one of the prosperous farmers of that locality. He died at Penfield aged about seventy-five years.

Thaddeus Ross, the father of William S. Ross, was born at Sheffield, Mass., March 10, 1796, and in early boyhood moved with his parents to Monroe County, N. Y. Reared to farm work, upon reaching manhood, he naturally chose that occupation, and for the most part he followed it with marked success throughout his active career. When a young man he married Catherine Ross, daughter of Samuel and Abigail (Rock) Ross, but died at the early age of thirty-three years. After his death his widow married George Maulson, an Englishman and carpenter by trade, and they moved to Pennsylvania, locating near Girard. Later, having returned to New York, they settled upon a farm in Chautauqua County, and from there, in 1843, moved to Coral Township, McHenry County, Ill. To Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus Ross were born four children, all of whom grew to maturity: Alice, George, Hannah and William. By her marriage to Mr. Maulson the mother of these had three more children, who also grew to maturity: John, Polly and Nancy. Mrs. Maulson finally died at Marengo aged seventy-five years. Mr. Ross was a man of ability and marked force of character. He was popular and his word carried weight in local affairs.

William Swain Ross was born in Penfield, N. Y., July 21, 1828, and was only about eight

months old when his father died. From the age of three to six he resided with his parents near Girard, Penn., and from six to fourteen in Chautauqua County, N. Y., where, in the schools of his neighborhood, he obtained his early education. At the end of this period, in 1843, he moved with his parents to a farm in Coral Township, McHenry County, Ill., where he grew to manhood. By assisting his step-father he early learned the carpenter's trade, which as a youth he followed with success for some time. At the age of twenty-two years he engaged in farming and after marriage he purchased an 80-acre tract of land in Coral Township, where he settled and followed this occupation. Here he remained for about eleven years, during which time he put the farm under good cultivation, adding to its area until it embraced 120 acres, erecting good buildings. At the end of this period he moved to Coral and resumed the trade of a carpenter. Filling many large contracts, he remained in this section for about eleven years, and, then, in 1873, moved to his present 84-acre farm in Coral Township, where he has since resided. This farm he has improved by erecting good buildings, and now has one of the pleasantest rural homes in his locality.

In Belvidere, Ill., July 22, 1850, Mr. Ross married Harriet Adelia Ross, a cousin, who was born at Penfield, N. Y., Dec. 22, 1827, the daughter of John M. and Paulina (Ross) Ross. To Mr. and Mrs. William S. Ross have been born five children: Emily Jane, born June 24, 1851; William Alonzo, born Feb. 9, 1853; George Alfonzo, born Jan. 15, 1856; Lee D., born Oct. 15, 1858; and one son who died in infancy.

Emily Jane married George B. Hovey, and they reside on the home farm, having two children: Edmund L., who married Essie Harvey of Capron, Ill., and has two children—Nellie and George—and May A., who married Prof. F. C. Prowdley, Superintendent of Schools at Nashville, Washington County, Ill., and they have one child, George H.

William Alonzo married Retta Drake, and they live on the Ross farm, which they have purchased.

George Alfonzo is a resident of Coral, married Emma Hughes, and, after her death, Nellie Morse.



Lee D. married Hattie Parker, and they have three children, Cora, Flora and Leora.

Mr. Ross is a man of marked force of character, not afraid to speak his mind, and his word carries weight in his community. For four years he served as Postmaster, and has also been a member of the School Board. He is a man of high moral principle, true to his convictions and an earnest advocate of temperance. Politically he is a strong Democrat. Mrs. Ross is a member of the Baptist church. For large-hearted, old-time hospitality the family are widely known, and have many warm friends throughout the country.

William Ross, son of the first William Ross who represented this family in America, was the great-grandfather of Mrs. William S. Ross. He married Sarah Manchester of English parentage, and they had seven children: Sallie, Nancy, William, Naphthalia, Patience, Laura, Rebecca and Hannah. Their father settled in Penfield, N. Y., where he was a farmer by occupation for the greater part of his life. He died in Penfield.

John M. Ross, the father of Mrs. William S. Ross, was born in Cherry Valley, Chenango County, N. Y., April 3, 1797. He was reared to life as a farmer, and in early manhood married Paulina Ross, and they had two children: Jane and Harriet. After marriage Mr. Ross settled in Penfield, where he resided for some time, but in 1835 removed to Chautauqua County, where he located upon a new farm which he managed for fourteen years. In October, 1851, he came to Coral Township, McHenry County, Ill., where he afterward made his home, and where he died in 1876. His wife, who was a faithful member of the Baptist church, died in March, 1880.

Samuel Ross, the maternal grandfather of both Mr. and Mrs. William S. Ross, and oldest son of the first American William Ross, was born in Massachusetts, but resided at different times in Washington County, N. Y., and at Bergen in the same State. He later moved to Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm. He passed his last days with his son Samuel, a farmer, near Mammoth Cave, Ky., where he died at the age of eighty-four years. He married his cousin, Abigail Rock, daughter of Captain John Rock, an Irish sea captain and a man of considerable wealth, who married

Annie Ross, a sister of the original William. To Samuel and Abigail (Rock) Ross were born five children: Samuel, whose wife died at the home of William S. Ross in her seventy-fourth year; Sallie, Catherine, Nancy, Paulina, John and William.

#### ROBINSON FAMILY GENEALOGY.

William Robinson came from England and settled at Dorchester, Mass., in 1636. The line of descent to David W. Robinson is as follows:

1. William, the founder of this branch of the Robinson family in America
2. His son, Increase, Sr.
3. Increase, Jr.
4. His son, George, who married Elizabeth Cobb, daughter of Capt. Thomas Cobb, who at one time lived at Attleborough, Mass., and was largely interested in the manufacture of iron.

Capt. Cobb, in his will, left his deceased daughter's children six hundred pounds. His son, Gen. David Cobb, was an aid to Gen. Washington. Sarah, eldest daughter of the captain, married Robert Treat Paine, signer of the Declaration of Independence.

George and Elizabeth (Cobb) Robinson were the parents of George, Sylvia and Mary.

Captain Nathaniel, son of George and Elizabeth Robinson, was born May 12, 1752, in Taunton, Bristol County, Mass. He married at Attleborough, Mass., April 13, 1775, Hannah, daughter of Jonathan Woodcock of Attleborough. Their children, all born in Attleborough, were: (1) Jonathan, born April 28, 1776; (2) Polly, born April 1, 1778; (3) David, born Nov. 4, 1780; (4) Nathaniel, Jr., born Jan. 13, 1783; (5) George, born May 4, 1784; (6) Hannah, born Jan. 27, 1786; (7) William, born Nov. 24, 1787.

Their deaths occurred as follows: Nathaniel, Sept. 29, 1841; Hannah (his wife), March 31, 1845; Jonathan (son), March 12, 1862; Polly (daughter), January, 1849; David, February, 1828; Nathaniel, Jr., Jan. 6, 1864; George, Jan. 24, 1786; Hannah, Aug. 16, 1862; William, March 10, 1863.

Captain Nathaniel Robinson was a Revolutionary soldier and took an early and efficient part in the struggle for American independence. Throughout his long life he manifested a great interest in all political affairs.

He attended the Freeman's meetings during the last month of his life. He died at Pawlet, Vt., Sept. 29, 1841, in the ninetyeth year of his age, leaving a widow a few years older than himself, with whom he had lived more than sixty-six years. His living descendants at the time of his death were five children, twenty-nine grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. He was the grandfather of David W. Robinson, whose sketch is given below.

**DAVID WILMARTH ROBINSON.**

The Robinson family is of old colonial stock of English Puritan descent. David Robinson, the father of David W. Robinson, was the son of Capt. Nathaniel Robinson, a Revolutionary patriot who fought under Washington, and was at Valley Forge during the fearful suffering of the winter of 1777-78. He was born April, 1752, and died in September, 1841. David Robinson was the father of the following named children: Abbott, Benjamin, Hollis, Thomas, Mary Ann, Jane, Julia, Henry, David W., Dengil and Bradford.

David W. Robinson, son of David, and grandson of Nathaniel, was born June 23, 1807, at Attleboro, Mass. He received a good common school education, and, when a young man, traveled for a woolen cloth manufactory. He married Sept. 14, 1834, in Albany, N. Y., Maria N. Clapp, and they settled in Pawlet, Vt., where Mr. Robinson was engaged in various business enterprises. Three of his brothers, Dengil, Benjamin and Hollis, came to McHenry County and settled near Crystal Lake, where they became substantial farmers. Thus David W. Robinson became interested in McHenry County farming land and purchased considerable property. In 1865 Mr. Robinson moved with his family to Woodstock, where his daughter Mary had previously settled with her husband, Judge M. L. Joslyn. Mr. Robinson then directed his attention to his farming interests and invested extensively in Woodstock real estate, becoming the owner of much property on the east side of the public square and of Main Street. He was one of the prominent citizens of Woodstock and while he was a prompt business man, he often performed acts of kindness to those in need, which never came to public notice. In his family he was lavish with his love and affection and idolized his grandsons as his own

children, liberally bestowing upon them the blessings of his wealth.

Mr. Robinson was a lover of truth and justice, and not only practiced those virtues himself, but instilled into the minds of his descendants these fundamental doctrines and taught them to love honesty and virtue. Throughout his long life he was simple and frugal in his habits and self-sacrificing to an unusual degree. He prospered by his industry, enterprise and sagacity as a business man, and accumulated his large property by honest methods. At his death he had the satisfaction of leaving his family an assured income, and the precious heritage of an untarnished name. He was singularly independent in his character and accustomed to depend upon himself on all occasions. He was broad and liberal in his religious views and political opinions, and, in later life, was a stanch supporter of Abraham Lincoln and the Union cause. He died in Woodstock Nov. 7, 1890. He and his devoted wife were the parents of three daughters: Mrs. M. L. Joslyn, Mrs. George W. Newell of Fari-bault, Minn., and Mrs. E. W. Dike. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson had two grandsons, David R. and Marcellus Joslyn.

The following tribute to his memory is from the pen of his grandson Marcellus:

**Seventh of November.**

The old man is dead—  
He has breathed out his last,  
And the bounds of that  
Mystical country are passed.

And many a time,  
As I sit in my chair,  
I dream of the things  
That are happening there.

I see the dear man,  
With his cane in his hand,  
Walk down with firm step  
To the edge of life's strand.

And then I tear down  
With my faith-strengthened hands,  
The veil that ne'er mind  
Without pity commands.

And there, in the light  
Of Eternity's sun,  
He stands by the side  
Of the Crucified One.



His soul has been dipped  
In that wonderful spring,  
Which maketh a man  
To be more than a king.

He had little faith,  
But the right path he trod,  
And thus, unaware,  
Did he worship his God.

M.

His wife, Maria (Clapp) Robinson, was born in Malta, N. Y., Dec. 8, 1817. Many years of her life were spent in Woodstock, where those who knew her esteemed it a privilege to be called her friend. On account of feeble health in later life, her sphere was confined to the home circle, where she fulfilled the mission of a true woman to make life beautiful for her dear ones, but many others treasure a thought of her kindness and sweetness. It might have been said of her:

"She doeth little kindnesses  
Which most leave undone or despise;  
For naught that sets one heart at ease,  
And gives it happiness or peace,  
Is low-esteemed in her eyes."

A lonely heart invited her ready sympathy, and to all the dim spots in other lives, she would fain have sent a ray of sunshine.

#### In Memoriam.

"A pure soul beamed  
On a stormy world,  
Nor knew of the depths  
Where passion whirled;  
A soul that was simple,  
And brave and true;  
A soul that was clear  
As a drop of dew."

M.

#### PETER SENGER.

Peter Senger, of Woodstock, is the surviving member of an Alsatian family who came to Greenwood Township, McHenry County, at an early day and settled in Queen Anne Prairie. Mr. Senger was born at the village of Drachenbrunn, Canton of Sultz, Providence of Alsace, then of France (now of Germany), Dec. 28, 1834, the son of Jacob and Magdalena (Neihard) Senger. His father, Jacob, was the son of Henry Senger, a farmer of Alsace, where the family had lived for many generations. Indeed they are believed to have been natives of that region for several centuries. The child-

ren of Henry Senger were: Jacob; Charlotte, who married a man named Sondericker; Eva S., who married Lawrence Williamson; Margaret, who married a Mr. Schank, and a son named Henry, who was a soldier in the Napoleonic wars, and is believed to have perished in the retreat from Moscow during the winter in which thousands of soldiers lost their lives.

There is a tradition, however, that he escaped to Norway, and thence to America, where he became the head of another branch of the family, who also trace their lineage to Alsace.

Jacob Senger, the father of Peter, was born on the family homestead in Alsace, about 1807. The family records having been destroyed by fire, dates cannot be given with absolute certainty. Jacob received an ordinary education in the German language. His mother was a woman of business ability, who engaged in trading from village to village. Jacob, however, became a well-to-do citizen and owned his own home in Drachenbrunn, besides several small parcels of land in different localities—probably the result of divisions of estates from one generation to another. He married in his native village Magdalena Neihard, who was born in that locality, and they settled down to farming. He also manufactured large basket-hampers, two of which would form a body for a wagon, and were often used for that purpose. He was also a woodman and dealt in bark and other products of the forests. His children were: Catherine, now Mrs. Henry Eckert; Jacob J., Peter, Henry, Michael, and Magdalena, who married Milan Fosdick, but is now deceased. Jacob Senger brought his family to America, embarking at Havre, France, on a sailing vessel and arriving at New York, June, 1845, coming thence to Chicago by way of the lakes. The journey from Alsace occupied ninety-six days, of which seventeen were spent in reaching Havre by wagon, thirty-five upon the ocean and the remainder in reaching McHenry County, the latter part of the journey between Chicago and their final destination being made by ox-teams. They were accompanied by several other Alsatian families, including those of Peter Fry; Henry Sondericker, Sr.; Peter Herdklotz, an uncle of Peter J. Herdklotz, whose name appears elsewhere in this volume; besides a sister of Mrs. Eva Eckert, wife of Michael Eckert, and Michael and George Schaaf, who were unmarried—all





*Peter Senger*





*Mrs. Peter Seng*





of whom settled in Queen Anne Prairie, McHenry County. Several other families from the same village in Alsace were members of the party, including Henry Schmidt, who settled in Kishwaukee Prairie. Peter J. Herdklotz and Jacob Eckert went from Queen Anne Prairie to Chicago with teams and brought the party to their destination.

Jacob Senger bought fifty acres of land here at \$10 per acre, besides forty acres of timber land at the Government price of \$1.25 per acre. His home was on the corner opposite where 'Squire Thompson lived many years. Two years later he bought 160 acres a short distance west, upon which he erected a hewed log-house and opened a farm. This house was afterwards covered with siding and made a good home. Later he added to his holdings, sixty acres in Dorr Township, and in 1868 erected good frame buildings on his land. Mr. and Mrs. Senger were members of the German Presbyterian church, and he was one of the founders of the church of that denomination in Queen Anne Township, serving for many years as ruling elder. In early days services were held in barns and private residences. Soon after his arrival in McHenry County Mr. Senger suffered a dangerous attack of typhoid fever which lasted eighteen weeks. He was frugal and industrious, and, at an early day, threshed his grain by tramping it out with horses on a threshing floor, and carried it to market at Chicago, and later at Waukegan, in wagons. He died on his farm, April 7, 1875, aged sixty-eight years, while Mrs. Senger died at the age of eighty-four.

Peter Senger, subject of this sketch, attended school in Alsace before coming to America, and well remembers his native village with a high mountain that stood back of his childhood home covered with vineyards and fine fruit gardens. The scenery was picturesque, the mountain and village with a clear mountain-stream flowing through the latter, making a bright picture. The location was four and one-half miles from Weisenburg. He was nine years old when his parents started for America, and he has a vivid recollection of the voyage across the Atlantic, as well as the journey with ox-teams from Chicago to McHenry. On the ocean he was the only member of the family that escaped sea-sickness. Arriving in McHenry County he soon began

to do such work as he was able, attending school but little as he had to work on the farm. Mr. George K. Bunker, who still lives, was his teacher. Nov. 17, 1854, he was married by Justice Strode in Woodstock to Elsie Dorothea Niewerth, with Henry Senger and Caroline Niewerth as witnesses. She was born Feb. 10, 1836, at Dunkelbeck, Hanover, the daughter of Henry and Dorothea (Vogas) Niewerth. Her father was a native of the same village, born about 1809, and her mother born Aug. 14, 1811, at Oberg, Hanover.

Henry Niewerth was the son of a tailor, who also carried on a farm and was well-to-do. He was well educated and gained some knowledge of medicine in his native country, but his father opposed his wish to become a physician and brought him up a farmer and tailor. He and his wife were parents of children named: Sophia, Dorothea, Caroline, Wilhelmina, Henry, Hannah, Doretta and Charles—all born in their parents' native village in Germany. All came to America with their parents and all are still living except Wilhelmina and Caroline. Henry Niewerth came to America with his family in the fall of 1852, leaving Bremen on a sailing-vessel and arriving in New York after a voyage of thirty days, and going thence to Buffalo. The following year (1853) he and his family came to McHenry County, where he bought and improved a farm of 120 acres on Cold Spring Prairie, four miles south of Harvard. Here he continued to reside until 1869, when he removed to Harvard where he built a brewery, which, after running several years, he sold out. While on the farm he had begun the practice of medicine, manufacturing his own remedies from recipes obtained in Germany. He succeeded well, making a specialty in the treatment of rheumatism, in which he acquired considerable reputation. Mr. and Mrs. Niewerth were members of the Presbyterian church. In politics he was a Republican. A brother of his served as a soldier of the Civil War. He died in 1881 at the age of seventy-two years, leaving behind him a respected family and a reputation for study integrity of character.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Peter Senger settled on his farm which he had acquired by hard work, to which he has made additions until he now owns 320 acres of fine farming land besides sixty acres of woodland. Upon

his estate he has erected substantial buildings. Their children are: Peter H., Josephine H., Charles M., and Otto H. J. Mr. and Mrs. Senger are members of the German Presbyterian church, and assisted in establishing the church on Queen Anne Prairie. In politics he is a Republican and has served as Road Commissioner several years. On the Senger side the family is of mixed French and German extraction, Alsace being on the border between France and Germany, where intermarriages between the two nationalities were frequent. The beauty and fertility of the land of the Asatians led the elder Napoleon to describe it as "the garden spot of Europe."

Josephine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Senger, married John P. Zimpelmann, who was born in Alsace, July 18, 1848, the son of Philip and Christine (Hart) Zimpelmann. Having lost his father by death in childhood, at fourteen years of age, John P. Zimpelmann came to America with his sister Salonie, and completed the education which had been begun in his native land, graduating from the Woodstock High School. After being employed as a clerk in a store at Woodstock some years, he engaged in business for himself, first as proprietor of a fancy store and still later as a grocer. Then moving to Elgin, he was connected for some years with a newspaper there as one of the stockholders, but returned to Woodstock in 1892 and engaged in business as a florist, purchasing there a pleasant home. He had four children: Dorothea C., Erma S. (who died in infancy), Julia Marguerite and Leonie E. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, in politics a Democrat and fraternally a Mason, belonging to the Knights Templar. His death occurred Sept. 20, 1899. Of the other children of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Senger, Peter H. was a farmer in McHenry County, and married Lizzie Hansman, and they became the parents of one child—Alice C.; Peter H. died Jan. 16, 1890, aged thirty-four years. Two sons—Charles M. and Otto A. J.—are still at home.

#### JAMES R. SAYLER.

James R. Sayler, a pioneer and progressive farmer of McHenry Township, McHenry County, was born December 17, 1822, in what is now Schuyler (then a part of Tompkins County, N. Y.), the son of Harry and Hannah

Hanly (Reynolds) Sayler, who were pioneer settlers in that region. The following facts regarding the early history of this family are compiled from records prepared about 1876.

The early members of the Sayler family were of mixed Swedish and French extraction, but in the next generation English and German blood became intermingled in their veins. The founder of the family in America was a Swedish sailor (original name is unknown), who came to Newcastle, Del., before the American Revolution and married a French lady named La Rosh. He afterwards settled at Frederick, Md., where he raised a family of several children. One of these named Martin was a soldier of the Revolution and fought under General Morgan at the battle of the Cowpens and in other engagements in that war. Henry, another son, learned the gunsmith trade at Harrisburg, Penn., where he married a German woman named Caroline M. Slegl, and they had four sons and one daughter namely: Jacob, Daniel, John, Henry, Jr., and Mehitabel. Two of these sons—John and Daniel—were soldiers of the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Lundy's Lane. In 1797 Henry Sayler, Sr., moved with his family from Harrisburg, Penn., to New York State, ascending the Susquehanna River in a flat-boat and had one horse, one silver dollar, and his gunsmith tools. He first located at Painted Post, Steuben County, but finding the soil there less fertile than he had anticipated, three years later (1800) accepted the offer of Nathaniel Owen to settle on a tract of fifty acres in Owen's neighborhood, in the town of Hector. Here he pursued his calling as a gunsmith, and his cabin became a rendezvous for hunters who came to have their weapons repaired, and he would frequently entertain them for two or three days at a time, receiving a few shillings for his work but nothing for his hospitality. In pioneer parlance "the latch-string was always out. At one time an old Seneca Indian named Taylor Bone became indebted to him in this way to the extent of a few dollars, and tried to get away without paying the bill, saying he had no money—"me go way; what you do?" "I will load my rifle, follow you and shoot you," replied Sayler. The Indian took out his buckskin wallet containing about \$20 and paid the bill. Later Mr. Sayler became an





*S. R. Saylor*





*Mrs James R Sayler*





expert hunter taking his first lesson from the same Indian. On one occasion he went to a "deer-lick" in the neighborhood, to lie in wait for game. He had been there only a short time, when a fine buck making its appearance, Mr. Saylor fired and brought the animal down. In the excitement following his success he neglected to reload his rifle, but standing it against a tree, ran to the deer to cut its throat and make sure of his game. He had just begun to skin the animal when, to his great surprise, a large bear made its appearance, growling and snarling behind the tree against which the gun stood, and acting as if about to contest the hunter's right to the game. Mr. Saylor's ammunition was nearly exhausted, there being only one imperfect bullet left, but he concluded to fight the intruder. Moving up slowly towards his gun—the bear meanwhile growling and eyeing him closely, but evidently not disposed to make the first assault, though holding its position, neither advancing or retreating—he finally reached his weapon, loaded it as quickly as possible and, with deadly aim, sent a bullet through the animal's heart. As the result of his hunt Mr. Saylor had both bear and deer meat that day. The early settlers of that region, in common with the Western pioneers, built their cabins of logs sloped off to a peak, covering them with rived and shaved clapboards held in place by a weight-pole without nails, making an open and sometimes leaking roof, and many a time the sifted snow would be found on the floor in the morning. The floors were made of puncheons split from bass-wood trees and hewed with broad-axe. The doors were hung on wooden hinges, fastened, when closed, with a wooden latch, on the inside, which could be raised from the outside by means of a leather or tow-string passing through a hole in the door just above the latch. When thought necessary, as at night, the string could be withdrawn to the inside and the latch served as a bolt. Instead of meal the pioneers often used corn reduced to the form of hominy by beating with a pestle in a wooden mortar (or hominy-block), and this, after being cooked, was fried or eaten with milk, or sometimes baked as bread. Their clothing consisted of home-made linen from flax for shirts, with tow trousers in summer and buckskin in winter; for foot

clothing the moccasin was used, while in summer people went bare-footed. The bearskin secured by Mr. Saylor in his hunting expedition above referred to, served as a bed-covering for his two sons for many years until much of the hair was worn off. The Saylor children never had any clothing bought at a store until they were of age, and obtained no schooling except that gained at the fireside. Henry Saylor died in April, 1821, aged sixty-three years, and his wife in 1822, aged fifty-five.

Jacob Saylor, the oldest son of Henry Saylor, Sr., moved at an early day into Northern Indiana, where he raised a large family and his descendants are scattered through that section of the State. Jacob died sometime prior to 1876. Daniel Saylor, the second son of Henry, Sr., also moved to Indiana and, in 1876, was residing at Rossville, Carroll County, in that State, the only surviving son of his father. He never married, but made his home with his brother Jacob. He was a famous hunter and took great delight in the use of firearms. He served in the war of 1812 and took part in the battle of Lundy's Lane under Gen. Winfield Scott; later enlisted in the regular army, where he served five years. He is said to have killed forty-nine black squirrels out of a total of fifty shots, which were used in making a pot-pie for a barn-raising in the neighborhood. This was on the old Owen homestead at Hector, N. Y. John, the third son of this family, was well known to the people of Watkins, N. Y., where he held many prominent positions. He was born in Harrisburg, Penn., in 1791, and was nine years old when his father located at Hector. In his youthful days he was very studious, and, when quite a young man, began teaching, his first school being in an old log school house a little east of Mecklenburg, N. Y. He enlisted with his brother Daniel in the War of 1812. After peace was proclaimed he returned home and married Deborah Hanly, the daughter of Capt. Samuel Hanly, and commenced keeping house in one room of his father's log-house, near where the Owen home stood in the latter part of the last century. In 1798, while still residing there, he was elected to the New York Legislature; also held the office of the Justice of the Peace for sixteen years in succession—an evidence of the public confidence

in his intelligence and integrity. He also served as Judge in Tompkins County, N. Y., for one or two terms. He bought the farm where his father lived, and, after remaining there a number of years, bought the farm a little west of Mecklenburg where his son Henry was living in 1876. He reared a family of twelve children—five sons and seven daughters—of whom eight were living in 1876. Martin, the oldest, married Harriet Burnett, and was killed by the falling of the limb of a tree in Michigan; Emma married Isaac Ellis and lived west of Mecklenburg; Catherine married Marvin Garrison, lived in Michigan in 1876; Susan married Hon. W. C. Coon, and lived (1876) in Burdett; John married Susan Potts, and afterwards lived in Michigan; Mehitabel died in 1861; Samuel married Catherine Reynolds and, in 1876, was living in Michigan; Mary died single in 1857, and Helen, in 1854; Henry was a carpenter and joiner by trade and married Emma Reynolds, daughter of Joel Reynolds, and, in 1876, lived on the homestead west of Mecklenburg; Cornelia married George Lockwood, from whom she parted and afterwards lived with the Shakers for a time, but still later was a traveling lecturer wearing the nom-de-plume of Miss Edna Holmes; Albert was single and a school-teacher in Michigan in 1876. John Sayler, the father of this family, after the death of his first wife, married Mrs. Alvira Wyant, moved to North Hector and died there at the age of seventy-six years. His first wife died at the age of sixty-five.

Henry Sayler, the youngest son of Henry Sayler, Sr., referred to in the preceding portions of this sketch, located on the northwest corner of Lot No. 64 in Hector, and on the same farm on which his father first settled. He first married Jane Potts, sister of James, John, Samuel, David, William and Horace Potts. James was the only surviving son of this family living in Burdett, N. Y., in 1876. Henry Sayler, Jr., and wife were the parents of only one child, Andrew M., who married Jane Coddington and in 1876, was residing in Chemung County, N. Y. For his second wife, Henry, Jr., married Hannah (Reynolds) Hanly, widow of Ebenezer Hanly and daughter of Rev. James Reynolds. They had five children: James R., Jane,

Adeline, Charlotte, and one who died in infancy. The sketch of James R. Sayler of this family will be given more fully hereafter. Charlotte married A. Rumsey; Adeline married Andrew Potts, and died soon after; Jane married Thomas Darling, who shot himself by accident. For his third wife Henry Sayler, Jr., married Mrs. Ann Holmes, sister of the wife of David Potts. Henry Sayler, Jr., died on the home farm in Hector in May in 1866, aged about seventy-one years. Mehitabel, the only daughter of Henry Sayler, Sr., married Otis Williams, and soon afterwards moved to Virginia, locating near Richmond. They had six children, and she died prior to 1876.

The following facts regarding the history of Martin Sayler, believed to have been a brother of Henry Sayler, Sr., mentioned earlier in this sketch, are obtained from a different source. Martin Sayler was a resident of Prince Edward County, Va., where he seems to have been a planter possessed of considerable wealth. In his will, which bears date, May 8, 1820, he makes a number of bequests without making mention of his plantation, which seems to have been reserved for future disposition. Among these bequests are the following:

"I give and bequeath unto my brother Henry's son John, \$1,500 for the purpose of educating his oldest son, Martin.

"I give and bequeath unto my brother Henry's son Henry, \$1,500 for the purpose of educating his oldest son, Andrew Martin Sayler.

"I give and bequeath unto my nephew, Jacob Sayler, of Tarleton County, State of Ohio, \$1,500 for the purpose of educating his son Martin, and I desire him to come and take my negro woman, Nelly, and her son Tonah, and conduct them into the State of Ohio, and be as a guardian to them; and I also, desire my executor, after my departure from this life, to take charge of the said Nelly and her son until such time as he, the said nephew Jacob, shall come and take them into custody. The remainder of my slaves I shall hereafter consider and direct for their disposal, excepting Zilphia and her youngest child. I desire her and her youngest child to be sold to whomsoever she may wish, for any price whatever."

Martin Sayler, the deviser, died March 21, 1827.

James R. Sayler, the immediate subject of this sketch, was raised on a farm and, after receiving a common school education, came to Illinois in 1847, making the trip from his



native State of New York, by way of the lakes to Chicago and thence by land conveyance by way of Waukegan to McHenry County, where he arrived in the fall of that year. He lived for a time with Alexander H. Hanly and, in 1850, crossed the plains to California, where he spent three years in the gold-mining region. He was located for a considerable time at Dogtown, in Mariposa County, where he conducted a trading post, doing an extensive business and making a large amount of money. Returning to McHenry County in 1852, he bought 200 acres of land, and engaged in farming. On Nov. 6, 1853, he married Melissa W. Sherman, the daughter of Benson and Wealthy (Gates) Sherman, of McHenry Township. Their children are: James Henry, born Sept. 11, 1854; Alma Augusta, born March 28, 1856; Ella, born Dec. 12, 1857; and Daniel E., born Nov. 4, 1859. Mrs. Sayler having died, he married on March 12, 1862, for his second wife, Jane Potts, of Reynoldsville, Schuyler County, N. Y., who was born Nov. 11, 1830, the daughter of William and Mary (Loomis) Potts. The father was of Irish and the mother of mixed French and German descent. The Potts family were early settlers of Lewistown, Penn., and the Loomises from New Jersey. Mr. Sayler remained on his farm, to which he made additions until he was the owner of 740 acres of land. He then removed to his present homestead, upon which he made improvements and erected substantial farm buildings. At the time of the marriage of Mr. Sayler to Miss Potts his youngest child was less than two years old and his oldest a boy of six years. Mrs. Sayler brought up the children with the greatest care and affection as if they were her own. By his second marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Sayler have one son: William Andrew, born Jan. 11, 1864. James Henry, the oldest child, died Nov. 6, 1863. Alma Augusta married Sept. 23, 1875, George Thomas, a farmer of McHenry Township, and their children are: Callie, Ray, and Ella Melissa. Ella married Edward H. Smith, son of John W. Smith, and their children are: Sayler E. and Clara. Edward Daniel married Mary Colby, and is a farmer of McHenry Township. Their children are: Mabel, Laura, Edna, Pearl, Eveline, Florence and Olive. William Andrew married Belle Colby, is a farmer of McHenry Township, and they have two children: James Newell and

Frank W. Mrs. James R. Sayler is a member of the Congregational church, and politically Mr. Sayler is a Republican. As shown by his marked success in business life, Mr. Sayler is a progressive citizen who, with the aid of his intelligent and industrious wife, has raised an excellent and well-educated family.

The following record of members of the Potts family, to which Mrs. James R. Sayler belongs, will be of interest in this connection: Andrew Potts, the grandfather of Mrs. Sayler, was born in County Down, Ireland, was a wealthy man, came to America and settled in Lewistown, Penn. He then removed to Tompkins, N. Y., where he bought a section of land from the Government. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and died at Hector, N. Y., at the age of over eighty years. His son William, the father of Mrs. Sayler, was born in Pennsylvania, received a superior education for that period, acquiring a knowledge of several languages. He studied law, but adopted the occupation of a farmer. He married in Schuyler County, N. Y., Mary Loomis, daughter of John and Ann (Kerhart) Loomis, formerly of New Jersey, and they became parents of the following named children: Andrew A., John (who died in infancy), Susan P., Jane (who became Mrs. Sayler), Sarah A., Eliza E., Ella and George. Mr. and Mrs. Potts were Presbyterians—the Loomises were of German descent and the Kerharts mixed French and German—the latter, a wealthy family of New Jersey. The following is a record of births and deaths of the Potts family: William Potts was born Jan. 17, 1779, died April 19, 1849; Mary (Loomis) Potts, his wife, was born April 13, 1805, died July 31, 1888. Of the children of William and Mary Potts, Andrew Alexander was born Aug. 2, 1825, died Oct. 1, 1854; John, born Nov. 1, 1826, died May 8, 1827; David, born November, 1835, died in infancy; George William, born March 1, 1837, died Oct. 12, 1841; Eliza Elsa, born Feb. 27, 1839, died Nov. 1, 1854; Ella Flavilla, born Dec. 10, 1844, died Sept. 19, 1850. An obituary of Mrs. Mary (Loomis) Potts, published about the time of her death at Reynoldsville, N. Y., as stated in the preceding record, July 31, 1888, at the age of more than eighty-three years, contains the following:

"The deceased, despite her great age, maintained her mental poise until her last sickness,

which was of only two days' duration. She leaves three daughters, viz.: Sarah, who lived at the homestead; Susan, wife of John Saylor, a resident of Michigan; and Jane, wife of James R. Saylor of McHenry. Her life was that of a Christian in every sense of the word, and her death is the cause of deep sorrow in the community where her life was passed."

#### ROBERT P. SIMMONS, M. D.

Robert Plunkett Simmons, M. D. (deceased), an early settler and former physician of Dorr Township, McHenry County, was born in Shippensburg, Penn., April 3, 1794, the son of Samuel and Margaret (Plunkett) Simmons. Samuel Simmons was a native of Lycoming County, Penn., born at Pine Creek, where he became a farmer and owned a farm of 200 acres. He married Margaret Plunkett, and they had five children: Susan Ann, Elizabeth, Samuel, Thomas and Robert P. The father died on his farm in Lycoming County. The Simmonses were an old Pennsylvania family and the Plunketts were from Ireland.

Dr. Simmons received his education in the University of Pennsylvania, graduating from the medical department of that institution in 1825, and began practice at Armaugh, Penn. Afterwards he practiced for a time at Blairsville, in the same State and, still later, at Canton, Ohio. He then went to St. Louis, Mo., where he remained seventeen years, and where he gained a wide popularity. In 1842 he was appointed Physician for the United States Marine Hospital, and, in 1850, was honored by his associates in the profession by election as President of the Medical Society of that city. He was also connected for a time with the St. Louis County Hospital. Up to this time his medical practice had extended over a period of twenty-five years.

Dr. Simmons was married, on Jan. 2, 1851, in the city of New Orleans, to Ellen Wyatt Shallcross, who was born in Oldham County, Ky., on the Ohio River, sixteen miles above Louisville. She was the daughter of Capt. Stephen and Eliza (McGruder) Shallcross. Captain Shallcross was a native of Manchester, Eng., who came to America with relatives when about fourteen years of age. He married in Louisville, Eliza McGruder, who was of Scotch descent. He became the captain of a steamboat on the Mississippi River, but died at the age of thirty-seven at Grand

Gulf, Miss. His children were: Mary, Georgiana and Ellen W. By Dr. Simmons first marriage to Eliza McGruder he had one son Robert, who served as a soldier during the Civil War, and is now a prominent Grand Army man. Having remained in St. Louis three years after his second marriage, in the spring of 1853, he came to McHenry County, Ill., and, on April 23 of that year, located on the farm which became his home for the remainder of his life. The land on which he settled, he bought for \$17 an acre. This land had previously belonged to his sister, Susan Torbert, the widow of Isaac Torbert, a well-known pioneer, who is remembered by the early settlers on account of his business at an early period as agent in loaning money sent him for that purpose by relatives. Isaac Torbert left two sons named Simmons and James.

After settlement on his farm Dr. Simmons practically retired from the practice of his profession, except when, as an act of personal friendship and kindness, he was accustomed to answer occasional calls by his neighbors. He improved his farm upon which he continued to reside until his death, which occurred Feb. 12, 1878, at the age of eighty-three years. In political belief he was a stanch Jacksonian Democrat. Dr. and Mrs. Simmons were the parents of the following named children: Winnie, born Sept. 1, 1854, and married Charles A. Salisbury; Lulu, born August 18, 1857, married Rudolph Salisbury; Thomas and Samuel McClay (twins) born March 29, 1861, the former married Martha Oberlin. Dr. Simmons was a man of plain, unostentatious manners, and of marked individuality and firmness of character. During an active life of four score years, he bore an exceptional reputation, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was totally blind for about nine years previous to his death.

Samuel McClay Simmons, the youngest son of Dr. Simmons, was born on his father's farm in Dorr Township, McHenry County, March 29, 1861. He received a good common-school education and became a practical farmer. On January 29, 1884, he was married at her father's home in Hartland Township, to Alta Pierce, and they settled on his father's homestead in Dorr Township, where they remained five years. Mr. Simmons then became associated with John D. Donovan, in the agricultural implement business at Woodstock, where he and his



family lived for five years, when he returned to the home farm, where they have since resided. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Simmons are: Florence Mary, born August 30, 1886; Walter Pierce, born March 22, 1889, and Ellen Lucretia, born Oct. 22, 1899. Politically Mr. Simmons is a Sound-money Democrat, and voted for Mr. McKinley for the Presidency both times. He was elected Highway Commissioner for Dorr Township in 1899, and re-elected in 1902, filling the office to the general satisfaction of the public. He is also an earnest friend of good schools, and has been School Director for three years. He is a representative citizen of recognized worth and responsibility.

Alta Pierce, now Mrs. Samuel M. Simmons, was born in Hartland Township, McHenry County, Dec. 16, 1860, the daughter of John S. and Lucretia (Harrington) Pierce. Her father, John S. Pierce, was of New England ancestry, but born in Lisle, N. Y., the son of Elkanah and Betsy Pierce. Elkanah Pierce was a farmer in Broome County, N. Y. He was twice married and by his second wife had children named: John S., and Laura. He came to Naperville, Ill., with his son, and afterwards lived with the latter in Hartland Township, McHenry County, where he and his wife died each at the age of eighty-four years. The daughter, Laura, married Dr. Daniels, of Naperville. The son, John S. Pierce, attended the common schools in his youth, was an attentive reader of good books, and thus, largely by self-improvement, gained a practical education. In 1837 he came to Illinois and spent the next winter working at Naperville, and then came to McHenry County and was one of the pioneer settlers of Hartland Township, where he bought land and built a log-cabin. He left his cabin unfinished, having neither doors, floors nor windows, and returning to Naperville found employment there until the following spring, his parents meanwhile remaining in the unfinished cabin until his return. He assisted to cut the timber which stood on the site of the present city of Woodstock. He cleared up a farm of 160 acres from the woods, bought more land and finally became the owner of 240 acres, upon which he erected good farm buildings, making a pleasant homestead. By his industry and thrift he became one of the substantial citi-

zens of McHenry County. His wife, Lucretia, (Harrington) Pierce, was born in Erie County, N. Y., the daughter of Dr. John Harrington. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce were the parents of the following named children: Alta, who became Mrs. Simmons; Laura, Eva, Minnie and Grace. In politics Mr. Pierce was a Democrat of the Jacksonian type. He was one of the early members of the Masonic fraternity in McHenry County and identified with the Woodstock Lodge. Mrs. Pierce was a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Pierce lived to be seventy-four years old, dying in Woodstock, May 17, 1791, while his widow survived him seven years, dying October 27, 1898.

#### MARTIN A. STAFFORD.

The Stafford family is of New England Puritan ancestry, coming originally from Staffordshire, England, and according to tradition, founded by one of two brothers, John and Thomas Stafford, who were sons of Lord Stafford. Having fitted out a vessel of their own, in 1688, John and Thomas Stafford came to New England, where Thomas was married to Mary Cleveland and settled at Scituate, R. I., but later removed to Danby, Vt. Some of their descendants settled in Plattsburg, N. Y.

Rollin Stafford, the first of whom we have authentic record, was born in Rhode Island, where he grew to maturity and married. His son Stutley was the grandfather of Jonas J. Stafford, of Harvard, Ill., and was born in Scituate, R. I., May 25, 1759, being about eighteen years old at the beginning of the Revolution. After his marriage he cleared up a large farm at Wallingford, Vt., where he settled and became a large land-owner, possessing at one time a whole section. Physically he was a strong man, and met his death suddenly, in Wallingford, May 20, 1826, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife, Rebecca (Doty) Irish, whom he married April 2, 1780, was born at Nine Partners, N. Y., in 1756, daughter of Jacob and Lucretia (Van Scoik) Doty, and a granddaughter of Hicha Van Scoik, who came from Holland and married a French army officer named DeLong. Rebecca Doty married in 1770 John Irish, a Quaker, who, during the Revolutionary War, was shot at his own door by a band of marauders for not taking up arms in defense of the colonies. By this union there



were three children. Mr. and Mrs. Stutley Stafford were the parents of eight children, viz.: Martin, Nancy, Palmer, Holden, Ormand, John, who is mentioned below; Mercy and Marburg. Mr. Stafford was a consistent member of the Society of Friends, and a man of the highest integrity.

John Stafford, father of Jonas J., was born in Wallingford, Vt., Sept. 4, 1798, where he procured the ordinary common-school education afforded for boys of his day. February 23, 1823, he married at Wallingford, Conn., Rebecca Wood, who was born at Newton, Mass., May 3, 1802, daughter of Jonas Wood, a well-known cotton manufacturer, who started life in a log cabin, in Wallingford, Vt., in 1800, later built one of the finest cotton mills on Long Island, and finally died in Massachusetts, when about seventy-seven years of age. His children were: Henry, Lewis and Rebecca (twins) and Mary. Mrs. Stafford died Aug. 21, 1870, at the age of sixty-eight years. To Mr. and Mrs. John Stafford seven children were born, viz.: Mercy, Susan, Albert, Lewis, Mary Ann, Elizabeth, and Jonas J. After marriage Mr. Stafford settled on the family homestead at Wallingford, Vt., which he greatly improved, and carried on farming there throughout his active life. The place is still in the hands of his descendants. He was an honest hard-working man and realized good returns from his labor, and, being possessed of the highest integrity, he won the respect of all who knew him. He died Aug. 3, 1846, at the age of forty-eight years.

Jonas J. Stafford was born in Wallingford, Vt., Nov. 20, 1833, and in the common schools of his neighborhood acquired a good rudimentary education. Preparatory to his life work, at the early age of fifteen, he entered a carpenter's shop, and there by strict attention to business, soon mastered a practical trade. This he afterwards followed for several years in Wallingford, meeting with profitable results. In September, 1857, when about twenty-four years old, he married Helen J. Finn, who was born in Wallingford, Vt., in 1840, daughter of Peter and Sophia (Earl) Finn. Her grandfather, John Earl, was a pioneer of Wallingford, and owned one of the best farms in the State. Mr. Earl's first wife died, and he married his second wife, Hannah Doty, of Walling-

ford, Vt. His children by the first marriage were: George, Phoebe, and Mercy Sophia. By his second marriage there was one daughter, Laura. Helen J. Finn was brought up by her grand-parents, John Earl and wife, and was thus called by the name of Earl. Mr. and Mrs. Jonas J. Stafford had four children, viz.: Lewis, a contractor, who is engaged in the real estate business in Chicago; John J., a prominent business man of Woodstock, Ill.; Martin A., whose biography is given further on in this sketch, and Harry, who was born in Wallingford, Vt., Feb. 3, 1868, received a common-school education at Harvard, Ill., and there learned the carpenter's and machinist's trade, and is now one of the most skillful pattern-makers in Harvard, being engaged in the machine-shop with his brother, Martin A. In politics he affiliates with the Democratic party. He married Mate Christian, of Linn, Wis., and they have two children named Edwin and Lewis.

Jonas J. Stafford resided in Wallingford, Vt., for many years after his marriage, and there in addition to the carpenter business, opened a sash and door factory, which he operated for many years. In 1869 he closed out his business and moved to Harvard, Ill., where he has since made his home, and as a skilled carpenter has worked at his trade for many years. He has been for some time a stockholder in the Stafford Furniture Manufacturing Company, and his various enterprises have prospered until he is now a well-to-do citizen. Politically Mr. Stafford was first a Whig, but later became a Republican, voting for both John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln.

Martin A. Stafford was born at Wallingford, Vt., Feb. 20, 1866, and reared to the life of a mechanic. He was only three years of age when he came with his parents to Harvard, Ill., where, in the graded schools of that city, he received a thorough education, developing habits of industry and accuracy that became of much value to him in later life. At having learned the trade of a mechanic, he secured a position as foreman in the Stafford Furniture establishment in Harvard, and was soon enabled to purchase stock in the company, becoming an influential member of the firm. Later in company with H. E. Stafford, he opened a machine-shop and wood-working establishment in Harvard, in which he has made a specialty



*Edward D Shurtleff*





of stair-building, and, being an expert draftsman as well as architect, his services have been greatly in demand, not only in Harvard, but also in Woodstock, Lake Geneva and Chicago. His work is of a superior order, and in each of these places he has built stair-cases in some of the finest dwelling houses, displaying much artistic ability. The residence of Frank. F. Axtell and the mill works are specimens of his handicraft. He drafted the plans for the factory of Hunt, Helm & Farris, and constructed the buildings. In his machinshop he has also carried on an extensive business, and is now considered one of the most successful manufacturers in Harvard.

Several years ago Mr. Stafford was married in Walworth County, Wis., to Etta J. Allen, daughter of Charles and Eliza (Bucklin) Allen, and they have one child, Catherine Earl.

Mr. Stafford is a conscientious man, as well as a skillful and well-trained workman, and he is also gifted in directing affairs. His many sterling traits of character have won him the confidence of the community, where he has many friends. He stands high fraternally, and affiliates with the Knights of Pythias. Politically he is a staunch Democrat.

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#### EDWARD D. SHURTLEFF.

Hon. Edward D. Shurtleff, prominent lawyer and Mayor of the City of Marengo, and present Representative from the Eighth District in the State Legislature, is of English descent through a line of colonial ancestors who became early settlers of Connecticut. His grandfather, David Shurtleff, was a farmer of old Croydon, Conn., who came to DeKalb County on a land hunting expedition, making the journey to Chicago by the lakes and the rest of the way on foot. Returning east for his family, he brought them to Allegan, Mich., where they spent the following winter. His family consisted of his wife (who was a Miss Ruth Knapp) and eight children; David, Alfred J., Giles, Ephraim, Mary, Jerusha, Laura and Orilla. Mr. Shurtleff soon after settled on Government land in Genoa Township, DeKalb County, which he afterwards entered and upon which he opened up a fine farm of 300 acres. He was one of the substantial pioneers of DeKalb County and spent the remainder of his life on this farm, dying at the age of about seventy-

five years. In his later life he was a Republican in politics.

Alfred J. Shurtleff, the second son of this family, was born Oct. 14, 1827, at Stanstead, Canada, where his parents lived for a time. He received the customary common-school education of that period, and finally became a farmer. He married in DeKalb County, Miss Lydia Miller, who bore him one child named: Mary E. Mrs. Shurtleff having died, Mr. Shurtleff contracted a second marriage, this time with Miss Mary F. Higby, who was born in Essex County, N. Y., July 29, 1833, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elihu Higby. Mr. Higby was a native of Eastern New York, where he followed the occupation of an iron forger and lumberman, his home for a time being at Willsboro on Lake Champlain. His father, Levi Higby, was a native of Connecticut, of English Puritan ancestry, who soon after the Revolutionary War removed to the vicinity of Lake Champlain, where he engaged in the manufacture of iron and the lumber trade. For that locality and period he was a well-to-do citizen. He died in 1850 over eighty years of age. His son, Elihu Higby, in his later years was a farmer in Essex County. The children of the latter were: Edward, Charles B., Melvin, Mary F., Juliette, Kate and Laura. The son, Melvin, died while serving as a soldier during the Civil War.

Mary F. Higby, who became the wife of Alfred J. Shurtleff, received a good education for that day in the common schools of Essex County, N. Y., and at the Essex Academy, and at eighteen years of age began teaching in her native county. In 1853 she came to DeKalb County, where she was engaged in teaching for two years, when she was married to Mr. Shurtleff, as already stated. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Shurtleff continued to reside on his farm in DeKalb County until 1870, when they removed to Marengo, McHenry County, where he purchased residence property and engaged in the stock, wool and lumber business. Here he continued to reside until his death, which occurred in 1895. Mr. Shurtleff was a Republican in politics and a highly respected citizen, as indicated by the official positions which he held—being Supervisor of Marengo Township and President of the Board of Trustees of Marengo Village. Fraternally he was a member of the Masonic Order. Mr.

and Mrs. Shurtleff were the parents of two children: Edward D., the subject of this sketch, and a daughter, Kate.

Edward D. Shurtleff was born at Genoa, DeKalb County, Ill., Sept. 19, 1863,\* and was seven years of age when his father removed to Marengo, McHenry County, which has since been his home. Here he received his education in the public schools, including a course in the high school, after which he became a student at Oberlin College, Ohio. He then entered upon the study of law in the office of Hon. A. B. Coon, at Marengo, and, in 1885, was admitted to the bar and began practice at Watertown, S. D., where he remained until 1888. He then returned to Marengo and was engaged in the lumber business there until 1893, when he resumed the practice of law. During the latter year he was elected the first Mayor of the newly incorporated City of Marengo, and, during his administration of two years, installed the new water-works and municipal electric lighting plant. In 1896, and again in 1898, he was elected Supervisor for Marengo Township, serving until May, 1899. In 1900 Mr. Shurtleff was nominated on the Republican ticket and elected Representative in the Forty-second General Assembly for the McHenry District, was re-elected in 1902, and, during his two terms in that body, has taken an influential rank in connection with legislative affairs. Among the important measures with which his name has been connected was the act introduced by him in the Forty-second General Assembly, providing for the reimbursement of owners of cattle slaughtered by order of the State Veterenarian to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. This act has proved a boon to many stock-owners who had previously been subjected to heavy loss for the public good.

In 1892, Mr. Shurtleff was married at Marengo to Elizabeth H. Sisson, who was born in Riley Township, McHenry County, March 17, 1866, the daughter of Allen and Julia (Babcock) Sisson, and they have had two children: Maurice Edward, born Sept. 16, 1892, and Helen Elizabeth, born Aug. 11, 1899. Mr. Sisson, the father of Mrs. Shurtleff, was a pioneer resident of Riley Township and a prominent and influential citizen.

Faternally Mr. Shurtleff is a member of the

Woodstock Commandery Knights Templar and of the Order of Modern Woodmen of America. By his personal ability, high integrity and independence of character, he has taken a deservedly high position, not only in his own county, but as one of the rising men of Northern Illinois.

#### WILLIAM PLUNKETT ST. CLAIR.

The subject of this sketch was a soldier in the Civil War, and the son of a pioneer settler who was a soldier in the Black Hawk War. The American St. Clairs were of Scotch-Irish ancestry and settled in Delaware during the colonial period, William H. St. Clair, the father of our subject, having been born in Maryland in August, 1788. Being left an orphan at an early age, he was brought up by an uncle who was a farmer and horse-breeder and something of a "patron of the turf." In this way the younger St. Clair acquired a fondness for fast stock and took an interest in a horse-race, although never a racing-man in the proper sense of that term. He gained a good education for his day, became a good penman and skillful accountant, and was engaged for a time as clerk in a store in Pennsylvania. At twenty-eight years of age, he married Elizabeth Simmons, born in Lycoming County, Penn., in July, 1802, and whose ancestors settled in Pennsylvania in colonial times. Soon after his marriage, Mr. St. Clair engaged in the mercantile business in one of the frontier towns of Ohio, a few years later removing to Detroit, where he kept a "tavern." He became a soldier in the Black Hawk War and, after its close, removed in 1835 to Chicago, where he opened a hotel near the corner of Dearborn and South Water Streets. This was probably in his private house. A year later he removed to Peoria County, but soon returned north and, in June, 1837, went to McHenry County, built a log house in Dorr Township near the present site of Woodstock, and settled there the following fall. Here he bought a claim upon which Uriah Cottle had settled in 1835. This was part of a tract to which Mr. Cottle set up a claim on the ground that he had driven a team of horses around it in one day, which was the custom of the pioneers. Mr. St. Clair entered 240 acres of land, paying the Government price of \$1.25 per acre, improved it and established upon it a good home. His children were: Margaret P.,



born in Ohio, 1822; Susan S., born in Ohio, 1826; Israel C., born in Detroit, June 15, 1829; Thomas S., born in Detroit, April, 1832; William P., born in Chicago, Oct. 23, 1836; Anna E., born in McHenry County, April, 1839; Robert C., born 1842. Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair were members of the Methodist church, and attended the early meetings held at the Cottle home, but later united with the church in the "Virginia Settlement." Mr. St. Clair was an old-time Whig, and died on his farm in 1849, a much respected citizen. Mrs. St. Clair died at their home—now the Pingry Hotel—Sept. 12, 1886, aged eighty-four years. Two sons became soldiers of the Civil War—William P. and Robert C. The latter served three years in the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, afterwards "veteranized" and was finally appointed Lieutenant in a colored regiment, during his period of service participating in many battles.

William Plunkett St. Clair, born in Chicago, Oct. 23, 1836, when about six weeks old was taken by his parents to McHenry County, with which his earliest recollections of frontier life are associated. At four years of age he became an inmate of the home of his sister, Mrs. Margaret P. Walkup, who had no children, and with whom he grew up in what is now the northwest part of Nunda. Between six and seven years old he began attending a school at Crystal Lake taught by Miss Emily Shephard, afterwards the wife of Rev. Mr. Joslyn, a Baptist minister—both now deceased. Some of his school-mates here were George Thompson, Matthias Butler and David Salisbury. His next school at Crystal Lake was taught by a Miss Grimes, when he had for fellow-pupils Daniel Ellsworth, John and Charlotte Palmer, Louisa Andrus and Joseph Harris. The textbooks included "Colburn's Mental Arithmetic," "Thompson's Written Arithmetic" and "Sanders' Readers." After attending school in the winter and working on the farm in the summer until seventeen or eighteen years of age, he spent two terms in the Crystal Lake Academy, obtaining a fair education which he has enlarged by judicious reading and by experience in practical business.

On January 1, 1857, before reaching the age of twenty-one, Mr. St. Clair was married at Algonquin, Ill., to Martha Thompson, born in

Portage, Allegany County, N. Y., June 30, 1836, the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Gearhart) Thompson. Mr. Thompson was of old colonial stock and born at Wardsborough, Vt., Jan. 27, 1794. He was a farmer, and while still a young man, in 1816, settled in Allegany County, N. Y., and in 1818 was married in that county to Elizabeth Gearhart, who was born in Scipio, N. Y., Nov. 5, 1799, the daughter of George Gearhart, of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Thompson settled at Nunda, N. Y., but in 1840 removed to Crawford County, Penn., and thence, in 1841, to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey overland with two two-horse teams and wagons, and reaching Algonquin Township in November. Here he bought 140 acres of partly improved land with a frame house upon it, which he still further improved, dying there, July 27, 1876, at the age of nearly eighty-three years. Mrs. Thompson lived to the age of eighty-eight years, dying April 26, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were members of the Baptist church in New York, and assisted in the organization of the first Baptist church at Crystal Lake, of which he was a liberal supporter and a deacon for many years. Politically he was a Whig, and later a Republican and a supporter of John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. He was a soldier of the War of 1812 in New York, and a sterling, upright citizen. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson's children were: Lodema, Anson, Edwin, George, William, Martha, Mary, Adoniram J. and Frederick G., besides five others who died in infancy or while quite young.

Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair, after their marriage, settled on the Walkup farm, where he had grown up, remaining there four years. August 15, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company D, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in at Rockford, serving until April 9, 1864, when he was honorably discharged at the Marine Hospital, Chicago, on account of disability incurred in the service. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg from May 19, to the surrender on July 3, 1863, being constantly under fire. Having been taken sick just after the siege, he spent some time in the field hospital, was afterwards in camp at Natchez, but finally, through the instrumentality of Captain Beckley, was granted a thirty-days' furlough. Being unable to rejoin his regiment



in three months, he was placed in the Marine Hospital at Chicago, where he was finally discharged. As a soldier he performed his duty cheerfully and faithfully. After his discharge he rejoined his family who had experienced all the suffering and anxiety incident to that perilous period, when the news columns and bulletins were scanned with apprehension, after every battle, lest the name of a husband or brother should be found in the list of the killed or wounded. Having sufficiently recovered, Mr. St. Clair engaged in the produce business in company with Joseph Walkup, remaining eight years. Mr. Walkup was Station Agent of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad at Crystal Lake for twenty-one years, and Mr. St. Clair served as clerk and baggage-master from 1864 to 1876, and, on the death of his partner, succeeded to the position of station agent, which he continued to fill until 1880. In July of the latter year he took charge of a large pickle and preserving works at Nunda, remaining two years. He then purchased the Walkup farm (consisting of 160 acres) upon which he was reared, but sold it in 1894, and engaged in the insurance and collection business. In 1893 he was elected a Justice of the Peace—an office which he has continued to hold ever since; has also been a member of the Board of Village Trustees and of the School Board. In politics he is a stanch Republican, casting his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln; and fraternally an unaffiliated Odd Fellow (the Nunda Lodge I. O. O. F. having been discontinued), and a charter member of Nunda Post G. A. R., in which he has held the positions of Quartermaster, Adjutant, Chaplain, Senior Vice Commander and Commander. Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair have had four children—Edwin P. (deceased), Kate E. (wife of United States Commissioner M. A. Foote, of Chicago); Mary (the wife of C. W. Seeley); and Georgiana (the youngest), now a successful teacher in the public schools of Dundee. Mr. St. Clair is the oldest surviving resident of Nunda, which has been his home almost the entire sixty-four years of his life.

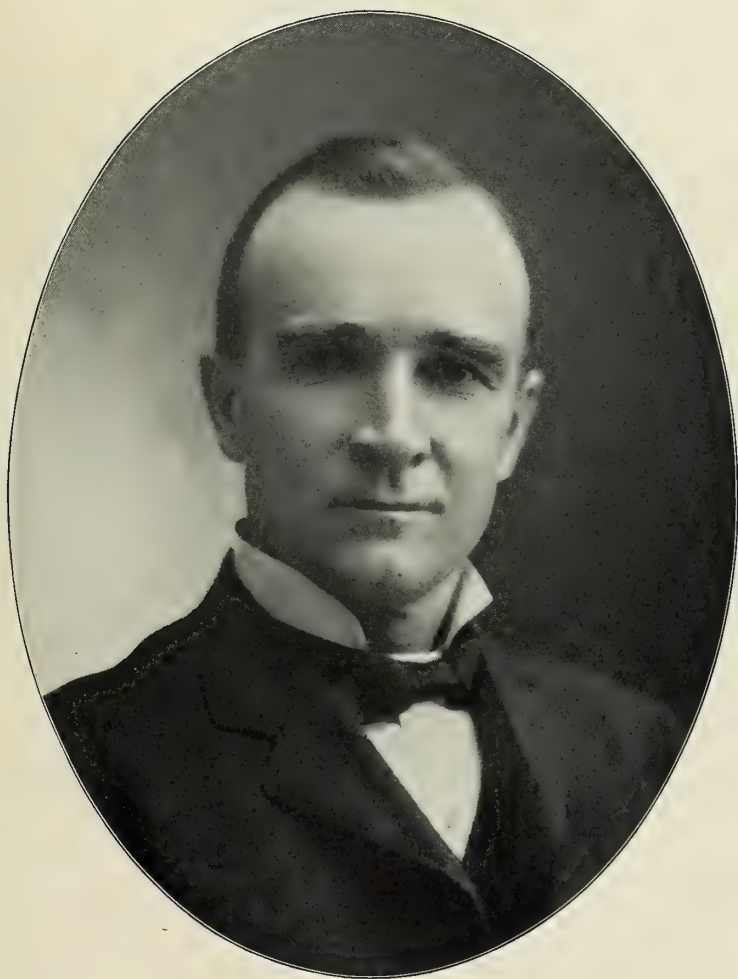
#### DAVID T. SMILEY.

Success in any honorable calling is an indication of close application, industry and faithfulness. There are few professions more honorable, and few which offer better opportuni-

ties, than does that of the law, for the display of character, sterling worth and ability. To the lawyer are necessarily entrusted matters of confidence, involving property, reputation and, at times, even life itself and, upon his skill, loyalty and ability, the rich and the poor, the strong and the helpless often depend. There is, perhaps, no lawyer in Northern Illinois to whom the title "self-made" applies with more justice than to the skillful attorney whose name heads this article. Having devoted himself exclusively to his profession, and possessing mental qualifications which enabled him to rise rapidly in the practice of the law, Mr. Smiley has, within a few years, won for himself a foremost place at the McHenry County bar. He was born near the town of Larne, in County, Antrim, Ireland, Feb. 7, 1860, the son of Captain Robert and Mary (Templeton) Smiley, and is of sterling Scotch-Irish ancestry. The family was originally Scotch, but, at a remote period, had settled in Ireland. On the maternal side one of the ancestors was a Highland Chief.

Captain Robert Smiley was the son of a sea-captain, and members of the Smiley family followed a sea-faring life for generations. Captain Robert Smiley went to sea when quite young and followed this life for many years as a master of merchant vessels, making voyages to different ports of the world. He married in County Antrim, Mary Templeton, and, in 1873, came to America bringing his family with him and expecting to make his home in this country. After spending a short time in Chicago, he came to McHenry County, settling in Burton Township, where he remained for two years, when he returned to Ireland. He died in Ireland aged about sixty-nine years. The family were members of the Scotch Presbyterian church.

David T. Smiley, of whom we write, was thirteen years of age when he came with his parents to the United States, arriving at Portland, Me., on the steamer "Polynesian" in the latter part of April, 1873. He had attended school in Ireland and after coming to McHenry County continued his educational training in the district school in Burton Township, attending school during the winter months and working at farm work in the summer season until he was nineteen years of age. He was about fifteen years of age when his parents returned



David T. Lively







*Elizabeth Smiley*



to Ireland, but, on his urgent request, he was allowed to remain in America. When old enough, he became a regular farm-hand and proved to be an efficient workman, receiving during the latter years of his work, \$22 per month wages. In 1879 he went to Fairfield, Neb., where he secured employment as clerk in his brother-in-law's store for one year. He then went to Frisco, Colo., where he spent a year working in a saw-mill and in silver mines, but returning to McHenry County in 1881, he resumed farm work in Burton Township, at which he continued until 1887. While at work on the farm he began the study of law, paying \$22 for four law-books, which was considered a large sum of money in those days. On March 16, 1887, he married in Burton Township, Libbie C. Hendricks, who was born in that township, the daughter of John and Johannah (Larkins) Hendricks. John Hendricks, who was a native of Germany, married in Lake County, Ill., and settled at Spring Grove, in Burton Township, McHenry County. All of his children were well educated and became teachers. Mrs. Smiley began teaching when fifteen years of age, and became one of the capable and experienced teachers of the county.

Immediately after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Smiley entered the Northern Indiana College at Valparaiso, Ind., as pupils, Mr. Smiley becoming a student in the law department. In 1887 he returned to farm work in Burton Township, and in October of the same year removed to Woodstock, where he entered the law office of Charles P. Barnes, with whom he studied law for one year. In October, 1888, he was admitted to practice, and immediately entered into partnership with Mr. Barnes, their partnership continuing for eighteen months. In 1889 he opened his present law office. Mr. Smiley has attended strictly to his profession, and, maintaining a high standard, has built up an excellent practice. It can truthfully be said of him that no man stands higher at the McHenry County bar than he. At present he is the attorney for the Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroads for McHenry County, and has been uniformly successful in his practice.

It is not too much to say that Mr. Smiley has of late years been engaged in every important case before the Appellate and Supreme Courts from McHenry County, and that in his case

the advance from the farm to lawyer's desk has been made with remarkable success. Mr. Smiley is one of those men in whose integrity and fair-mindedness the general public repose great confidence, and this confidence has been won by an undeviating policy not only as a lawyer, but as a citizen, marked by a firm adherence to the principles of right and justice. Mr. Smiley is a member of the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Calvary Commandery, and in 1900 was Eminent Commander. He is also a member of the I. O. O. F. His is a marked example of the self-educated and self-made man. During all his life he has been a zealous reader of standard books, and, while a young man working on the farm, read all the valuable books that came to his notice. He has accumulated a valuable law library and an excellent private library of high literary merit. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smiley are members of the Presbyterian church. They have one son, Lionel David, born in 1894.

#### MARIA W. SMITH.

Maria W. Smith, for nearly fifty years a resident of McHenry County, and a lady of marked individuality and strong character inherited from a long line of Puritan ancestors, was born in Sterling, Vt., March 31, 1825, the daughter of Thomas and Hulda (McKinstry) Wilson. Thomas Wilson was born in the old Scotch-Irish settlement at Londonderry, N. H., Sept. 11, 1783. He was of Scotch-Irish stock, the son of Robert and Margaret (Wilson) Wilson, both of the same name, but not known to be related. Robert Wilson was born at Londonderry, June 26, 1759, the son of James and Sarah Wilson, whose parents were probably from Scotland. James and Sarah Wilson had a family of six sons and six daughters, namely: Margaret, Sarah, Eleanor, Agatha, Mary, Agnes, William, Samuel, James, Robert, John and Boyd. James Wilson was a substantial citizen and died on his farm at Londonderry. His son James constructed at Bradford, Vt., the first geographical globe ever made in America. Robert Wilson, the grandfather of Mrs. Smith, was a farmer who lived near the old Londonderry homestead, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was with Washington at the famous crossing of the Delaware. In his old age he was accustomed to relate many inter-



esting anecdotes connected with Revolutionary times and the numerous battles in which he was engaged. He planted the first fruit tree nursery in New Hampshire, and his homestead remained in the hands of the family until the death of his youngest son. November 15, 1784, he married Margaret, the daughter of Thomas Wilson of Londonderry, born at Londonderry, N. H., Jan. 22, 1761. His wife died, and on May 17, 1813, he married as his second wife Ann Wallace, of Londonderry. The children of the first wife, with dates of birth, were: Thomas, Sept. 11, 1785; Eleanor, May 23, 1787; James and Robert (twins), Feb. 9, 1789; David, Feb. 13, 1791; Sarah, July 21, 1793; Ebenezer, Dec. 18, 1795; John, Feb. 6, 1799; Boyd, Jan. 22, 1801; Samuel, Sept. 3, 1802, and Margaret, May 19, 1805. Robert Wilson and wife were of Scotch Presbyterians, following the faith of their ancestors. He died at Derry, N. H., Nov. 22, 1850, aged ninety-two years. Thomas Wilson, son of the preceding and father of Mrs. Smith, was born Sept. 11, 1785, was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and in 1811 went to Johnson, Vt. February 18, 1815, he was married at Hyde Park, Vt., to Hulda McKinstry, born at Castleton, Vt., May 10, 1782, the daughter of Amos and Sarah (Pike) McKinstry. Amos McKinstry was born in Stockbridge, Mass., March 24, 1759, was a soldier of the Revolution, and married Sarah Pike, born at Castleton, Vt., Nov. 20, 1758. He was a pioneer farmer. After marriage Thomas Wilson and wife settled on a farm at Johnson, Vt., which is now in the hands of one of his grandsons. While working at his trade as a carpenter, he carried on his farm with hired help. He moved from Johnson to a farm in Sterling, Vt., but later came to Michigan, and worked at his trade at Monroe, in that State, where he died Sept. 13, 1834, aged forty-nine years. He was an old line Whig in politics, and served several terms as Town Clerk and as Selectman during his residence at Sterling, Vt. His children were: Samuel, born Aug. 5, 1818; Maria, born March 31, 1825; Amos, born Nov. 6, 1829, and Thomas, born Feb. 6, 1834, besides four children who died in infancy or in early youth. Mr. Wilson was a man of sterling integrity, of industrious habits and reared a highly respectable family.

Mrs. Maria W. Smith grew up in her native town of Sterling, Vt., and early learned the

value of industrious and frugal habits. As a girl she learned and practiced the art of spinning and weaving, making butter and cheese, which were important domestic duties of that time. At twenty-one years of age she was married to William L. Smith, born at Johnson, Vt., Oct. 13, 1821, the son of Lemuel Hawley and Abbie (Langdell) Smith.

Lemuel Hawley Smith, born May 5, 1799, was the son of Aaron and Hettie (Hawley) Smith. Aaron was a farmer and pioneer settler in Vermont, emigrating from Massachusetts, where he was born of English-Puritan ancestry. He opened up a farm in the woods of Vermont and became a prominent citizen. His son, Samuel Johnson Smith, born Feb. 12, 1789, was the first white child born in Johnson, Vt., but died in childhood. His other children, with dates of birth, were: Abijah, Feb. 7, 1791; Abia, Oct. 16, 1793; Samuel Johnson (2), Aug. 27, 1795; Abia (2), July 16, 1797, (also died young); Lemuel H., May 8, 1799; Abel Chapin, April 25, 1801; John Wise, Sept. 1, 1803; John Wise (2), July 12, 1805; Kitty, Nov. 1, 1807; Harriet, Jan. 26, 1810; Betsy, Jan. 9, 1812. Aaron Smith and wife were Methodists. He died March 8, 1830. Lemuel Hawley Smith grew up a farmer, but after reaching maturity erected and managed a saw mill. He married, in Johnson, Vt., Abigail Langdell, born in New Boston, the daughter of William and Sarah (Langdell) Langdell, and they had children born as follows: William L., Oct. 13, 1821; Joseph, Jan. 13, 1822, (died in early childhood); Thankful, March 27, 1824; Aaron, March 3, 1826; Charles, Feb. 18, 1828; Sallie, Aug. 14, 1830; George, March 27, 1832; Zaccheus April 12, 1836; Jane, June 6, 1837; Fannie, Feb. 8, 1838; Frank, April 8, 1842; Ellen, Sept. 8, 1845. In 1855 Lemuel H. Smith came to Illinois, accompanied by John W. Smith, who had been on a visit to his former home in Vermont, and William Smith, wife and children, the party arriving in McHenry County, Oct. 12. The next year Lemuel H. Smith returned to Vermont for his family, his wife then being a sister of his first wife named Love, born April 17, 1818. Her children were: Bradford, born Nov. 12, 1855; Louisa, born April 13, 1857; and Lemuel, born June 2, 1858. After coming to McHenry County Lemuel H. Smith bought two farms near Ringwood, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying Aug.

27, 1868, aged sixty-eight years. In politics he was a Republican, and a straight-forward and respected citizen.

William L. Smith, the husband of the principal subject of this sketch and son of Lemuel H. Smith, was reared on his father's farm, receiving a common-school education, and after marriage to Maria Wilson, as already related, settled on the homestead of his grandfather, Aaron Smith, where he lived until 1855, when he came with his family to McHenry County. Here he bought 320 acres of land on Ringwood Prairie, and improved a fine farm which is still owned by the family. In 1885 he moved to McHenry, bought a family residence there, where he died Jan. 4, 1902; his wife dying June 16, 1902. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Smith, with dates of birth, were: Hulda W., July 16, 1847; Thomas W., May 5, 1849; Aaron S., Dec. 7, 1850; Louisa M., July 29, 1852; Amos W., March 30, 1855; Hawley L., March 21, 1857; Jennie, Dec. 22, 1858; Samuel William, Oct. 19, 1860; David Nelson, Oct. 21, 1862; Cora B., Jan. 9, 1866; Flora, March 30, 1867; Amos W., Aug. 30, 1869. By industry, frugality and business judgment, aided by his faithful wife, Mr. Smith accumulated a handsome property, which has passed into the hands of his excellent family. Mrs. Smith was widely known in the community in which she resided for her retentive memory and deep interest in family history, and her neighbors depended upon her for many dates of births, marriages and deaths, not only in her own family but in the entire county.

The following is a record of marriages and births among Mrs. Smith's descendants:

Hulda W. married July 3, 1866, Benjamin Parker, a farmer, who died Nov. 6, 1870, leaving no living children. Oct. 4, 1875, she married as her second husband, Simeon H. Covell, a farmer of McHenry Township, and they have one child, Jennie R., born April 12, 1879. Mr. Covell owns a farm of 480 acres.

Aaron S., married Dec. 29, 1872, Ella Barney and they have eight children: Benjamin J., Barney, William Arthur, Elsie A., Harold, Mary, Jessie and Winfield. Aaron S. Smith has a farm of 480 acres in Smith County, Kan.

Jennie E. married Ellis Hewes, a merchant of Hebron, Ill. She is now deceased.

Samuel W. married Jessie Inman, and is a farmer on the home farm. Their children are: Alonzo, Mattie, Ralph and Bernice.

Amos married Florence Brown, and they reside on part of the old homestead. They have one child, Mary E.

#### REV. NEWTON A. SUNDERLIN.

Rev. Newton A. Sunderlin, Pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, Woodstock, McHenry County, is descended from English-Puritan and Massachusetts colonial ancestry. His grandfather, Samuel Sunderlin, was a farmer by occupation and a patriot soldier of the Revolution, who carried his musket for the achievement of American independence. At an early day he moved to Pennsylvania, locating in Union County on the Upper Susquehanna River, but being determined to avoid the contaminating influence upon his family of a whisky distillery which had been established in his vicinity, he soon after loaded up his household goods and removed to Ohio. When some one there had offered to employ one of his sons as a teamster to haul whisky, he decided on another removal, this time going to Clearfield County in the mountainous region of Pennsylvania. This was in 1822, that heavily timbered region being at that time occupied by a few hardy hunters, besides wild beasts and some remnants of Indian tribes. After proceeding as far as was then possible by wagon, when the roads gave out, he continued his journey following the Indian trails until he found a deserted hunter's hut, where, having decided to settle down, he selected a tract of 320 acres in the virgin forest. He had not been here long when two ill-favored land-hunters appeared upon the scene and announced that the land upon which he had located was claimed by themselves. He could retreat from rum and the danger of exposing his children to evil habits, but had no fear of the British invader or the unscrupulous land-speculator; so, patting his old revolutionary musket on the breach, and shaking the powder in the old flint-lock, he responded, "this is my friend," and the adventurers seeing the flash of his resolute eye, speedily withdrew to trouble him no more. In time the sturdy frontiersman found himself surrounded with the primitive comforts of a backwoods home, while his sons were reared to the simple and industrious habits of frontier life among the hills of Central Pennsylvania. When old enough they followed lumbering and the



rafting of logs down the Susquehanna. Mr. Sunderlin and his family were devout members of the Methodist church, and he was one of the most active and efficient laborers in introducing Methodism in that part of Pennsylvania. When new settlers located in the neighborhood, he visited them, Bible and hymnbook in hand and, in the spirit of the true missionary, at their firesides sought to impress upon them the duty of a Christian life. He was a man of naturally strong religious feelings and stern morals, and the tradition of his devotion to the spiritual welfare of his neighbors is still preserved in the community in which he lived nearly a century ago, while many features of his strong character have been inherited by his descendants. Withal, he was a "mighty hunter" and many deer, bear and other species of game fell before the unerring aim of his old flint-lock musket. His wife was a Miss Elizabeth Minegar, who was of Holland-Dutch descent. Their children were: David, Michael, John D., James and two daughters whose names are not remembered. The son James is still living on the old Pennsylvania homestead at the age of ninety years. Samuel Sunderlin died on his farm at seventy-five years of age, and his wife at seventy-three. The latter was a Methodist, as well as her husband.

John D. Sunderlin, of this family, was born in Union County, Penn., Feb. 5, 1811, and received but a meager education, as the opportunities of that period and locality were limited. By personal effort, however, he became self-educated and a well-informed man. In early life he followed the occupation of a lumberman and raftsman on the Susquehanna, and acquired a vigorous constitution. December 24, 1835, he was married in Clearfield County, Penn., to Lydia D. Steer, who was born in Clearfield, Penn., July 6, 1815. Her family were farmers and pioneers of Clearfield County. Other children of this family were: James, Joseph, Dorcas, Rebecca, and Elizabeth. The last named graduated at the Female Seminary at Mt. Morris, Ill., and became a teacher. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. John D. Sunderlin settled on a part of the paternal homestead in Pennsylvania, where they remained until 1855, when they removed to Illinois, locating in Stephenson County on a tract of 160 acres of unimproved

land, for which he paid \$4 per acre. This land he improved, making it a valuable farm. The children of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Sunderlin were: Mary E., born June 16, 1837; Harriet, born Dec. 16, 1838; Asall, born May 5, 1840; Dorcas E., born June 24, 1841; Rebecca, born April 23, 1844; Lydia A., born March 22, 1845; Martha C., born Sept. 2, 1846; Joseph M., born March 23, 1848; Newton A., born Sept. 5, 1849; John H. R., born Jan. 7, 1851; Hiram, born June 26, 1852; Mary, born Sept. 22, 1853. The four first named all died during the year 1842. Mr. and Mrs. Sunderlin were both devout members of the Methodist church, in which he was an active worker, class-leader and teacher in the first Sunday School in his locality. In political views Mr. Sunderlin was a Democrat. He lived to the age of seventy-seven years, dying May 10, 1888, and his wife August 6, 1890, at seventy-five years.

Rev. Newton A. Sunderlin, born in Clearfield County, Penn., Sept. 5, 1849, was reared on the home farm, and was six years old when his parents removed to Illinois. After acquiring a primary education in the district school, he later attended the academy at Cedarville, Stephenson County, and the old Mt. Morris Seminary, completing his course at the State University at Madison, Wis. He then engaged in teaching for eight years, during which he had charge of schools in Stephenson County, at Red Oak, Iowa, and, for a time as Principal of the schools at Dakota, Ill. April 2, 1874, he was united in marriage at Monroe, Wis., to Mary E. McKahan, who was born in Knox County, Ohio, Sept. 2, 1849, the daughter of Lewis and Sopora McKahan. The McKahans are of Scotch ancestry, Daniel McKahan being born near the great tunnel at Washington, Penn., the son of Daniel McKahan, who was a farmer of that county. The children of Daniel McKahan were: Lewis, Daniel, Eliza Jane, Robert, Esther, Margaret and Mary. During the William Henry Harrison campaign (1840), Daniel McKahan, Sr., accompanied by his two sons, Lewis and Daniel, made a horseback trip to Ohio, looking for land, and having bought 100 acres for \$1,500, he returned to his home in Pennsylvania, where he died some years later. His sons, Lewis and Daniel, and their sister Eliza Jane, settled on the Ohio land, and opened up a farm erecting on it



good buildings. Daniel later settled on adjoining land, but finally removed to Wisconsin and still later to Iowa. Lewis prospered on the Ohio farm, was married in that State to Sopora Ely, the daughter of Peter Ely, and having bought land in Green County, Wis., removed thither in 1861, bringing with him a herd of 500 fine-wooled sheep. He became a prosperous farmer, dying Dec. 5, 1902, aged about eight-one years. He was a member of the Christian church and a Republican in politics. Mr. and Mrs. McKahan were parents of two children: George and Mary.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Newton A. Sunderlin moved to the vicinity of Red Oak, Iowa, making the journey with a canvas-covered wagon and a two-horse team, camping out on the way and, with an assistant, driving a herd of seventy head of cattle. Here he had bought a tract of 160 acres of wild land, upon which he built a frame house and made improvements, teaching school during the winter. Two years later he sold his land at a clear profit of \$1,000, and coming to Illinois spent the next three years (1877-80) at Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, studying for the ministry. While a student he held a license as a "local preacher," but having graduated in 1880, he at once joined the Rock River Conference, and was appointed pastor of the church at Garden Prairie, where he remained the full limit of three years. His next appointment was at Rockton, and during his incumbency there, an extensive revival occurred resulting in more than doubling the membership of his church. His next charge was at Capron, Ill., where he remained five years; in 1890, he was assigned to Harvard, Ill., remaining a like period. In 1895, Rev. Mr. Sunderlin was appointed to his present charge at Woodstock, where he has remained continuously ever since. The time limit having been removed, in view of his popularity as a pulpit orator and the marked success which has attended his ministerial labors, his numerous friends hope that his ministration at his present location may be continued for many years longer. His services are much sought after on occasion of weddings and funerals. Still in the prime of a matured manhood, there are many years of usefulness before him.

Rev. and Mrs. Sunderlin are the parents

of the following children: Lulu Blanche, born at Red Oak, Iowa, Feb. 13, 1875, married W. E. Chilcote, now in the railway mail service, and they have two children, Donald and Margaret; Floyd M., born in Garden Prairie, Ill., Oct. 10, 1881, and resides at home; Eva Gertrude, born at Capron, Ill., April 29, 1886, and is now attending the Woodstock high school; Hiram Harold, born at Harvard, Ill., Feb. 2, 1891. In political opinions Mr. Sunderlin is an earnest Republican, and an enthusiastic worker for the cause of temperance. While a resident of Capron he was a member of the Board of Village Trustees. Fraternally he is a member of the Capron Lodge I. O. O. F., and one of the charter members of the Woodstock Encampment, of which he is Chief Patriarch. Besides his ministerial labors he has been called upon to devote much attention to private interests, in which he has given evidence of marked business ability.

#### WILLIAM SALISBURY.

Among the pioneers of McHenry County, there are few whose career has been more noteworthy than that of the venerable and respected subject of this sketch. The Salisburys are of English descent, the founders of the American branch of the family being the early settlers in the Colony of Rhode Island. William Salisbury, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Rhode Island. His father having died when the son was quite small, and his mother having married a Mr. Pettipiece, the family moved to Berkshire County, Mass. Here William was brought up to the life of a farmer, and married Huldah Thomas, the daughter of William and Huldah (Cook) Thomas—both branches of the family being of early New England origin. After his marriage, Mr. Salisbury settled at Pownal, Vt., but subsequently removed to Chenango County, N. Y., where he bought a farm about 1816-20, and spent the remainder of his life there. His children were: William, Arthur, Ambrose, Perry and Harriet.

William Salisbury (2), whose name heads this article, was born near Bennington, Vt., Oct. 3, 1815, and, while still an infant, was taken by his parents to Chenango County, N. Y., as described in the preceding paragraph. Here he was brought up a farmer, meanwhile receiv-

ing a common-school education, later engaging for a time in teaching. In October, 1841, he came west, making the journey by the Erie Canal and the lakes to Milwaukee. He then crossed the State of Wisconsin to Galena, Ill., and from there he proceeded down the Mississippi to Burlington, Iowa. His next move was to Cameron, Warren County, Ill., where he spent the following winter (1841-42) teaching. In the following spring he made the journey on foot to Chicago, and thence to McHenry County, locating in Nunda Township. Here he worked on a farm for a time, and also engaged in his old vocation as a teacher. In June, 1842, he purchased 120 acres of land, consisting of prairie and oak openings, which he improved, building thereon a frame house in 1844. On October 1, 1844, he was married to Miss Eliza Jane Terwilliger, born in Broome County, N. Y., Jan. 7, 1823, the daughter of Samuel and Laura L. (Chamberlain) Terwilliger. Mr. Terwilliger, the father of Mrs. Salisbury, was of Holland-Dutch stock, born on the Mohawk River, in New York. He had married in the State of New York, and, in 1836, came to McHenry County, settling on the line between Nunda and Dorr Townships, where he entered land and improved a farm. He had six children—William, Eliza, Lorenzo, Jerome, Louisa and Elizabeth—and died in Nunda Township, aged over eighty years, leaving a reputation as a respected and useful citizen.

After his marriage in 1844, as detailed above, William Salisbury and wife lived on the home farm for many years until his final retirement from active business life. He still owns the homestead, however, which is a fine farm of 250 acres and which was improved largely by his own hands. In his old age he is still regarded as one of McHenry County's most honored citizens, as he is now one of the most venerable of the few remaining pioneers of the county. His official life has been comprised in three terms of service as Supervisor of Nunda Township, while his standard of intelligence is indicated by his experience as a teacher during the first two years of his residence in the county. Mrs. Salisbury, who was also a member of a pioneer family, died June 3, 1877, leaving four children—Laura A., Charles A., Emma J., and Bertha V. An old line Whig in politics, Mr. Salisbury became a

Republican on the organization of that party, and was one of the supporters of John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency. His career has been essentially that of the self-made man, and he is passing the evening of a well-spent life in the enjoyment of the well-deserved respect and confidence of his fellow citizens.

#### ERASMUS W. SEAMAN.

Erasmus W. Seaman (deceased), Hebron, Ill., was a veteran soldier of the Civil War and a son of one of the pioneer settlers of Hebron Township. The Seamans are an old colonial family of Vermont, and of Puritan English extraction. Erasmus W. Seaman was born in Paris, Oswego County, N. Y., Oct. 26, 1837, a son of Lorenzo D. and Lucinda (Whipple) Seaman. Lorenzo D. Seaman was a native of Rutland County, Vt. The Whipples were an old colonial Vermont family, and one of the earlier generation was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

In 1844, when Erasmus W. Seaman was but seven years old, the family came to Illinois, making the journey by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes to Chicago, and thence by team to Hebron Township. He was reared on the farm and received the usual common-school education under the regime of the district schools of that period, and among his teachers were a Miss Hopkins, a Mr. Knight and a Miss Turner who became the wife of Squire Henry W. Mead.

On March 13, 1860, Mr. Seaman was married in Hebron, Ill., to Fannie Gates, who was born in Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., a daughter of Henry and Jane (Hawley) Gates.

Henry Gates was a native of Vermont, and came from an old colonial family. He was a farmer by occupation, and in early manhood went to Rome, N. Y., where he was married to Jane Hawley, whose ancestors were of an old New England family. Mr. and Mrs. Gates lived in Rome, N. Y., for about five years and then in 1843 or '44, moved to Illinois, making the journey to Southport (now Kenosha), Wis., via the lakes. They settled three miles southwest of Hebron on a 40-acre tract of land purchased of the United States Government, and upon which there were no improvements except that a log shanty had been built. Mr.



Gates improved his land, to which he made subsequent additions until he finally owned 120 acres. Here he made a comfortable home and passed the remainder of his days, both he and his wife dying on the old homestead; Mr. Gates being about sixty-six years of age at the time of his death. Originally a Democrat in politics, he became a staunch Republican and a strong Union man in the days of Fremont and Lincoln. He had one son, Ellis W., who served in the Civil War, enlisting for three years as a private in Company H, Eighth Illinois Cavalry. He was in the battle of Fort Stevens, besides many skirmishes, and died in Hebron, Ill., 1864, from the effects of army life. The children of Henry and Jane (Hawley) Gates were: Fannie, Ellis W., Mary, Elizabeth and William H.

After marriage Erasmus W. Seaman settled in Hebron Township and engaged in farming. On February 10, 1863, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Eighth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, under the command of Capt. O. DeWitt Dowd, and, after fourteen months service, was honorably discharged March 30, 1865, on account of wounds received during the battle of Fairfax Court House. Mr. Seaman took part in the battle of Fort Stevens, Md., near Washington, when Early made his famous raid on the National Capital, and also in the battle of Upperville, Va., besides many skirmishes in which his company was engaged. The Eighth Illinois Cavalry saw very active service and had several fights with Mosby's guerrillas, in one of which Company H captured Mosby's wife, who was taken as a spy to Washington. Mr. Seaman and his company were with Gen. Sheridan on his famous raid in the Shenandoah Valley, and witnessed the devastation of that country, which made it so famous in national history. Mr. Seaman was twice wounded, receiving his first wound during the three days battle at Fort Stevens, when a minnie-ball passed under his left knee cap, but after two weeks' treatment in the Reginould Hospital, he again resumed active service with his company. On February 5, 1865, during the skirmish with Mosby's guerrillas, his left hand was struck with a minnie-ball and so badly shattered that amputation was necessary. After partially recovering from the effects of his wounds, Mr. Seaman

settled on a 40-acre tract of land near Hebron, Ill., but in 1867, removed to Hebron village, where he followed his occupation as a carpenter and general mechanic, until his death, July 24, 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Seaman were parents of the following named children: Jennie D. (deceased), William W. and Clarissa. William W. continues the business formerly carried on by his father. Mr. and Mrs. Seaman were members and liberal supporters of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. Seaman was one of the stewards and also Vice-President of the Epworth League. Mr. Seaman was a member of the G. A. R. at Harvard, and of the G. B. Menger Post, and in political opinions was a staunch Republican according to the principles advocated by Abraham Lincoln.

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#### CAPT. WILLIAM H. STEWART.

Capt. William H. Stewart is a retired lawyer, farmer, soldier and ex-County officer, Woodstock, McHenry County. During the visit of the Prince of Wales (now Edward VII., King of England), to the United States in 1860, he had an interesting interview with Ralph Farnham, then the last surviving soldier of the Battle of Bunker Hill, which had been fought between British and Colonial troops June 17, 1775—eighty-five years previously. It may be that some soldiers of our great Civil War, who enlisted at fourteen to fifteen years of age, and fought for the integrity of the Nation, will still survive when an equal period shall have elapsed after that crisis in our national life, although the procession of war veterans, now annually passing into the mysterious Beyond, gives warning that, in a comparatively short period, the vast majority will be counted among the silent hosts whose graves are annually covered with garlands in token of the respect in which their memories are held by a united and appreciative people. The last survivors of the Civil War will be as much objects of interest and honor to the American people as was Ralph Farnham, the Revolutionary patriot, to those of a generation ago. There are yet many survivors of the great struggle between the North and the South, who fought as bravely and with as true a sense of patriotism for the preservation of the Union as did any Revolutionary soldier for our national independence; and it is fitting that both



should be held in equal respect and veneration by the American people through future generations.

Capt. William H. Stewart, who belongs to the class of patriots of the latter period, was born at Fayetteville, N. Y., Oct., 8, 1818, and received a superior education in the public schools and in Union College at Schenectady, in his native State. His family is of Scotch ancestry, his great-grandfather, Alexander Stewart, being a farmer whose home was in the edge of the Highlands in Perthshire, Scotland. Robert Stewart, the son of the latter, and a native of Perthshire, was the founder of this branch of the family in America. After his marriage in Scotland, he came to America sometime subsequent to the Revolutionary War, and settled at Johnstown, Montgomery County, N. Y., where he bought land, on which he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the venerable age of ninety years. One of his sons, John, served as a soldier in the War of 1812, dying of camp fever, while another, James, became the father of our subject. James Stewart was born in Perthshire, and in infancy was brought by his parents to America, where he became a wagon-maker by trade. He was married at Johnstown, N. Y., to Sarah Wright, who was of Scotch-Irish parentage, and then settled on the Oneida Indian Reservation, near Utica. He lived here about two years, when he removed to Fayetteville, where he bought land and pursued his trade. In 1841 he came to McHenry County, Ill., and, having bought 600 acres of land in Hebron Township, opened up a large farm. As were his forefathers he was an adherent of the Presbyterian faith, and assisted in founding the Presbyterian church in Hebron, in which he was a deacon. His children were: Robert W., William H., John, Jane, and James M. He was a prominent and highly esteemed citizen in his community and died on his farm at the age of seventy-six years.

After receiving a primary education in the public schools and attending Union College for a time, William H. Stewart entered the office of Judge Watson, of Fayetteville, as a student of law. Having been admitted to practice in New York State in 1843, he came directly west, making the journey by way of the lakes to Milwaukee and Southport, and thence to Hebron Township, McHenry County, whither

his father had preceded him two years earlier. Here he purchased 300 acres of wild land, which he improved and engaged in farming. In November, 1856, he was married in Hebron to Marietta Ehle, who was born in Canajoharie, N. Y., the daughter of John A. Ehle, who came to McHenry County in 1843. Mr. Ehle was the son of Anthony and Angelina (Stear) Ehle, and was also a native of Canajoharie, as was his father before him. The father of the latter was a native of Germany. Capt. Martin G. Van Alstine, who was the grandfather of Mrs. Stewart on the maternal side, was of Holland-Dutch ancestry and a soldier of the Revolutionary War. The Ehles and Van Alstines were both prominent families of Canajoharie, the village having been built on the farm of the latter. After marriage Captain Stewart resided on his farm until 1857, when, having been elected County Clerk of McHenry County on the Whig ticket, he removed to Woodstock. He served in this office for four years, and was one of the founders of the Republican party in McHenry County, taking a prominent part in the Fremont campaign of 1856, as he did in the election of Abraham Lincoln four years afterward.

On September 4, 1862, Mr. Stewart enlisted as a soldier in the Ninety-fifth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he served as Captain until August, 1865, completing the full period of his enlistment several months after the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. Among the battles and campaigns in which he participated were the siege of Vicksburg, the Red River expedition, the battles of Champion Hills, of Guntown, Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely, the capture of Mobile, the second battle of Nashville and many skirmishes. At the battle of Guntown he was severely wounded by being shot through both legs, and, after spending three months on furlough, during which he resided at his home, he rejoined his regiment, serving until honorably discharged. He was an active participant in all campaigns and battles in which his regiment was engaged except while disabled by wounds.

After the close of the war Captain Stewart returned to his home at Woodstock, and in company with his brother Robert built the first cheese factory at Hebron, where he was extensively engaged in the manufacture of cheese for a number of years. He also served as Dep-

uty County Clerk for several years and County Treasurer for four years. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodstock Commandery A. F. & A. M., of which he was Treasurer for ten years. At the venerable age of over eighty-four years, Captain Stewart enjoys in an eminent degree the respect which should be the reward of an honorable life as a patriotic soldier, an honest and capable public official and a high-minded and useful private citizen.

#### JACOB STORY.

The American family of Story, which produced Joseph Story, the jurist, William Wetmore Story, the sculptor, and Wilbur F. Story, the founder of the Chicago Times, and of which Jacob Story, of McHenry County, Ill., is a representative, is of English origin, and three brothers of the name are said to have come over the sea and settled in Southern Vermont in the days before the Revolution. One of these brothers was the ancestor of Jacob Story. Mr. Story's grandfather, in whose honor he was named, was Jacob Story, a native of Southern Vermont, who had children named John, Hiram, Harriet, another daughter whose name is not recalled, Joseph (who was a soldier in the War of 1812), Elijah and another son who was a school-teacher. When his son John was in his fifth year, Jacob Story removed with his family to the Green Mountain region, locating in Fairfax County, Vt., where he cleared woodland and made a good farm on which he lived out his days and died at an advanced age. The wilderness round about his place of settlement abounded in bear, wolves, wild-cats and all kinds of wild beasts and birds native to the country. Mr. Story was a noted bear-hunter, and he had a famous bear dog, which he had trained to chase and attack the bear and hold it at bay until it fell before the pioneer's unerring aim. The dog's confidence in Mr. Story's ability to kill a bear before the bear could harm it, led at length to a premature attack on the bear which killed the dog before the hunter could bring his trusty rifle into action. This pioneer's wife also lived to be very old. Their son John was born in Southern Vermont and, after the family removed to Fairfax County, was educated there in the common schools and early developed much ability as a mathemati-

cian, which he cultivated through life. He and his brother Hiram cleared and improved a large farm adjoining their father's and gave much attention to stock-raising. In 1818, John Story bought an improved farm of 150 acres on the Lamoille River a mile and a half above Cambridge, Vt. Later he bought another farm two and a half miles down the river and, after living there a few years, removed to New York State, where he farmed until his death, which occurred at the venerable age of ninety-one years. His wife was a Miss Whitcomb, a native of Fairfax County, Vt. Mr. and Mrs. Story were Baptists and exerted a good influence upon the communities in which they lived. They had children named: Jacob, Rhoda, Charlotte, Susan, Maria—all born in Fairfax County, Vt.—Rosetta, Andrew, and Harriet—who were born at Cambridge, Vt.

Jacob Story was born Dec. 25, 1814, was brought up to farming and was given such education as was obtainable in the district schools near his home. In the spring of 1837, he went to Massachusetts, and was employed on a farm near Boston for six months until he came to Illinois. He journeyed by rail and steamer to New York City and by steamer up the Hudson River to Albany, from Albany to Buffalo by a canal-packet and from Buffalo to Detroit by steamer. From Detroit he and two other young men walked to Lake Michigan, and they came to Chicago by the last steamer of the season, arriving about Dec. 1, 1837. Chicago was then nothing but a big village claiming 5,000 inhabitants, and its business centered on South Water Street. From Chicago to McHenry, where he arrived December 10, Mr. Story walked by way of Elgin and the Fox River road to Dundee, stopping at nearly every log cabin he saw and inspecting the country closely. That winter he lived at Brown's Log-cabin Tavern, then kept by Gideon Colby. He found employment at farm work and made a claim on forty acres of timber land, across the river, two miles south of McHenry. This he bought at a land sale, improved it and put it under cultivation and, later, he bought eighty acres one mile south of it. On November 22, 1844, he married Mary Ann Colby, who was born Nov. 15, 1828, and died March 28, 1847. He set up housekeeping in a log house with a shingle roof, on his eighty acre tract, ten acres



of which had by that time been fenced and plowed. For eight years after the death of his wife Mr. Story and his children lived with Ira Colby, his father-in-law. In 1853 he entered upon a mercantile career at McHenry, in the front part of the store now occupied by his daughter as a drug store, which was built by Robert Matthews. He gradually dropped other lines of trade and was, for many years, one of the leading hardware merchants in this part of the country. He has speculated to some extent in western lands, having bought a half section of Iowa prairie land at Government price, which he sold to advantage and afterwards purchased a section in Brooks County, Kan., which he still holds. His judgment in business affairs is excellent, and he is especially well-informed concerning real estate values, and was, for that reason, during his two years' incumbency of the office, one of the best assessors his township ever had. Early in life he was a Whig and he voted the Republican ticket in Lincoln's time; later, he became independent in politics and voted for Cleveland and afterwards became a Prohibitionist. His fellow-citizens accord to him the respect due to an honest man and the peculiar regard which attaches to the pioneer, for his residence in the county dates back sixty-three years, to within three years of the location of the first settler, Samuel Gillian, in Algonquin Township, Nov. 18, 1834. Mr. Story has two children, Julia A., born July 15, 1845, and John I., born May 19, 1847, nine days before his mother's death. Miss Julia A. Story was graduated at Rockford College in 1866, and taught school two years and a half in Missouri. She was later graduated from the Illinois School of Pharmacy, Chicago, and is winning success as a druggist at McHenry.

#### JOHN W. SANBORN.

John Sanborn, the father of the subject of this sketch, was the first actual settler on English Prairie, McHenry County, where he located in the spring of 1837. The family is of strictly English ancestry, the name being originally spelled Sanbourne. Three brothers—respectively named John, William and Stephen Sanborn—who were the sons of Ann Sanborn, came to America with their maternal grandfather, Rev. Stephen Bachiler, in 1632. The

Christian name of their father is unknown, but it is believed that Hampton, England, was their original home, as many of the name were there at an earlier day. The earliest known mention of the name was in 1194, although the name is found in the records connected with the history of Normandy, France, from which England received a large accession to the dominant element of its population in the days of William the Conqueror, and for a century or two later.

From John Sanborn, one of the three brothers just mentioned, is descended the branch of the family now represented in McHenry County. He was born in Hampton, England, and, after coming to America in 1639 with his two brothers, was living at Hampton, Mass. He was one of the Selectmen of his town and often employed to execute grants and the survey of highways. He was a man of prominence, as shown by the fact that he was a member of the committee to lay out a new partition, served as foreman of jury trials at Salisbury, Mass., and was chosen Ensign at Hampton Military Court. In 1669 he was chosen agent of Hampton to settle a disputed boundary question. In 1676 he was foreman of the Grand Jury; in 1679 was commissioned Lieutenant of the Hampton forces for protection against the Indians, and he was recommended to Charles II., of England, as one of four persons qualified to serve on a commission in regard to making New Hampshire a Royal Province. In 1685 he and his grandfather, Rev. Bachiler, were among those chosen to serve in the General Assembly. He was married twice: first, to Mary, daughter of Robert Fuch, of Gorleston, Suffolk, and Hampton, N. H., and the second time to Margaret (Page) Moulton, a widowed daughter of Robert Page. He was the father of eighteen children—a part of whom were: John, Mary, Abigail, Richard, Mary (2), Joseph, Stephen, Ann, Dinah, Nathaniel, Benjamin and Capt. Jonathan. Lieut. John Sanborn died Oct. 20, 1692, leaving a goodly estate for that period.

**Second Generation.**—John, the older son of this family, was born about 1649, and married Nov. 19, 1674, Judith, the daughter of Tristram Coffin, of Newbury. He died Sept. 23, 1727. His children were: Judith, Mary, Sarah, Debora, John, Tristram, Enrah, Lydia, Peter and Abner.

**Third Generation.**—Tristram Sanborn, born



in 1684, lived in Kingston; was Selectman there in 1725, and Representative from that place in 1734, 1736 and 1737; was a church deacon for thirty years; D. H. S., says was an Ensign and a grantor of Steventown. His house having been burned by the Indians, he built a garrison house on the site. He was married April 25, 1711, to Margaret, daughter of William Taylor; died, Jan. 7, 1771. His children were: Peter, Jethro, Abraham, Tristram, Jethro (2), and William.

**Fourth Generation.**—Abraham Sanborn, born in Kingston, March 2, 1717, signed "the Test" there; married Jan. 6, 1737, Abigail Clifford, daughter of Samuel Clifford, of Hampton. He died Feb. 21, 1780, and his wife, Feb. 19, 1797. Children: Joseph, Sarah—died 1743—John, Debora, Sarah (2)—died 1746—Sarah (3), Judith, Shuah, Isaac and Abraham.

**Fifth Generation.** John Sanborn, born in Kingston, Feb. 19, 1741; settled in Sandown, N. H., signed "the Test" there; married Elizabeth Sargent, said to be of Scotch descent; lived in Chester, N. H.; died April 10, 1797; was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. Children: Abijah, Abraham, Winthrop, Sarah, Moses, Elizabeth and Jethro.

**Fifth Generation.**—John Sanborn, born in at Sandown, N. H., January 11, 1761; moved to Salisbury, N. H., where he was an early settler; was a farmer; married March 6, 1797, Betsy Fitz, who was born Jan. 26, 1766, and died in Salisbury, N. H. Winthrop Sanborn came to Illinois with his son John (see sketch of latter) his wife being then deceased, and died Feb. 24, 1843. Children: Elizabeth (died in infancy), Elizabeth (2), John, Ira, Sarah, Daniel (deceased), Daniel (2) and Winthrop S.

**Seventh Generation.**—John Sanborn of the family last mentioned and father of John W. Sanborn of McHenry County, was born in Salisbury, N. H., July 22, 1797, became a farmer and served at a soldier of the War of 1812 while still in his boyhood, being stationed at Portsmouth, N. H., and taking part in the capture of a prize. He came to Michigan some time before the Black Hawk War, and was with his brother Daniel at White Pigeon when he enlisted for service in that contest. He was married July 5, 1840, at Salisbury, N. H., to Mehitabel Sanborn, who was born there in 1812, the daughter of Capt. Abraham Sanborn.

He inherited his father's farm in New Hampshire, and, in the spring of 1837, came to Benton—now Burton Township—McHenry County, with \$2,000, having meantime spent some years at White Pigeon, Mich. What were known as the "English settlers" from White Pigeon had already been on the ground in McHenry County, which afterwards took the name of "English Prairie," and had staked off claims six months previously, but had not made any actual settlement. A Mr. Huffman was then living on the south side of the Nippersink, but no one having yet settled on the north side where Mr. Sanborn located, he thus became the first permanent white settler there. He staked out his claim, began to break his land, and built a cabin partly in a hill-side near the site of what is now the Sanborn home. Some six months later the "English settlers" came to establish their settlement, and put in their claim to the land on which Mr. Sanborn had located. He was mowing grass at the time when one of the new settlers appeared and made an offer to him of \$100 to induce him to leave. This he refused to do, when his visitor remarked, "What can you do? There are twenty of us." Mr. Sanborn replied, "I can make the prairie stink worse with dead British than ever hell did with brimstone." His visitor departed and, although Mr. Sanborn afterwards had several encounters with the intruders, he held his ground. For some time he carried with him the musket which he had borne in the Black Hawk War. His weapon had a hole bored through the stock, by which he hung it to his plow ready for prompt use in case of emergency. He carried upon his face the mark of a blow received from his assailants. He was a man of stubborn character, kept his land and, at the Government land sale, bought 320 acres, and assisted many new-comers to settle on the east side of the prairie. There were many encounters between land-claimants in those days, and it frequently happened that cabins were destroyed and "claim-jumpers," as they were called, were driven away by force. Mr. Sanborn kept the musket he carried in the Black Hawk War until 1862. Besides his farm of 320 acres, he owned 160 acres in Richmond Township, which he had bought at a Government land sale. This was on a disputed claim.

Several settlers had been driven from this land, their cabins torn down and themselves beaten, when Mr. Sanborn announced: "As two men have been driven from this claim I guess I will take it." And this he did in spite of all opposition. Mr. and Mrs. John Sanborn had children named: Levina, John, Clarinda (who died aged eighteen years), Benjamin and Minerva (who died aged twelve years). Mr. Sanborn was a Democrat in politics and served as Supervisor of Burton Township several terms; was also School Director for some time. He died Feb. 26, 1866, aged seventy-two years, and Mrs. Sanborn August 16, 1883, aged seventy-one.

While a resident of Michigan Mr. Sanborn made a visit to his old home in New Hampshire, and, on his return, made the journey in a canvas-covered wagon drawn by four yoke of oxen. Mrs. Sanborn's parents were Captain Abraham and Lois (Taylor) Sanborn, her father, who was a Captain of militia, belonging to the same stock as her husband's family. There is preserved in the Sanborn family a British military coat, which had—in some manner not now known—come into possession of some older members of the family, and which has been handed down for several generations.

John W. Sanborn, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born on his father's farm—now the Sanborn homestead—in Burton Township, McHenry County, Dec. 28, 1843. Here he received the usual common-school education of his day in the "old red school house," one of his first teachers being Malinda Peebles. In his boyhood he was brought up to the life of a farmer, but, at the age of nineteen years, enlisted as a soldier in the War for the Union, being mustered in Sept. 4, 1862, as a private in Company H, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. Charles Tryon. He served for nearly three years and until after the close of the war, being mustered out at Springfield, Aug. 17, 1865. Some of the principal battles in which he was engaged included those of Champion Hills and Black River, followed by the siege of Vicksburg and the assaults of May 19 and May 22, 1863; the capture of Fort De Russey; the Red River expedition with the battles of Blair's Landing, Old River, Cloutierville, Marksville and Yellow Bayou; the battle of Guntown, Miss., and the

battles of Nashville, Tenn., in December, 1864. During the Red River expedition he was a sharpshooter. Although sick in his quarters for one week and in convalescent camp for three months, he was never in hospital on account of sickness during his entire term of service, but took part in all the campaigns, marches, battles and skirmishes in which his regiment was engaged, except the pursuit of Price through Missouri in the fall of 1864. At that time he came home on furlough to vote for Abraham Lincoln.

After the war Mr. Sanborn returned to his home in McHenry County, and, on May 22, 1868, was married to Olive Walker, who was born in Otsego County, N. Y., July 13, 1846, the daughter of Henry and Diana (Smith) Walker. The Walkers are of colonial Puritan stock, and the grandfather of Mrs. Sanborn settled at an early day in Otsego County, N. Y. Her father, Henry Walker, was born in Connecticut and, in childhood, removed with his parents to New York. He served as a soldier of the Civil War in a New York regiment for two years, but died in hospital in consequence of a wound received in a skirmish, the ball passing through his arm and entering his side. His children were: Albert, Olive, Jane, Laura, Phoebe, Mary, Sarah, Henry (died in infancy), Annie and Nellie. Albert was a soldier of the Civil War and died in hospital.

After marriage Mr. Sanborn settled on the paternal homestead where he has continued to reside ever since. He purchased the interests of the other heirs in his farm, and now owns 269 acres of fine farming land with excellent improvements. He is a Democrat politically and has served as School Director twenty-five years; has been Road Commissioner eleven years and Tax Collector four years. His children are: Clyde W., Harry W., Flora M., Guy C., Edith L. and Wade H. Mrs. Sanborn came to McHenry County in the spring of 1866 in company with acquaintances from her native State, and taught school in English Prairie, Solon Mills, Ringwood and Huntley for four years before her marriage. She is a woman of much mental force and high character. Mr. Sanborn is a strong temperance man, of lofty integrity and exerts a strong moral influence in the community.

Since the above sketch was written Mrs.



Sanborn died at her home on English Prairie, McHenry County, Dec. 20, 1902, aged 56 years. Her death has removed a beloved friend whose genial presence will long be missed by her family and a large circle of friends.

#### CHARLES B. SHAPLEY.

Charles B. Shapley, one of the old settlers of Grafton Township, McHenry County, descends from a Colonial Massachusetts family of that name, his great-grandfather, David Shapley, being a farmer in that State, who removed with his son David and family to Madison County, N. Y., where he settled on a farm.

David Shapley, the grandfather, settled on land in Madison County, N. Y., which he converted from a wilderness to a well-improved farm. His children were: Calvin A., an early pioneer of Coral Township, McHenry County; David, Louis, who lived on the old homestead in Madison County; Rebecca, and Nelson. Mr. Shapley was a substantial farmer and, after settling in Madison County, resided there all of his remaining days and died at the age of about fifty years.

Nelson Shapley, the father of Charles B., was born on his father's farm in Madison County, N. Y., May 26, 1810. He received a good common school education and married in that county Agnes Payne, born in May, 1811, daughter of William and Hannah Payne.

William Payne, well-known as 'Squire Payne, was a pioneer of Georgetown, N. Y., and a well-to-do citizen, serving as Justice of the Peace for many years, and was the first Supervisor of Georgetown, Madison County, N. Y. He was born in Connecticut, descending from an old Puritan English family, was a deacon in the Congregational church and died in 1854, aged seventy-nine years. His son, Weston, was the first white child born in Georgetown.

After the birth of his son, Charles B., in 1837, Nelson Shapley entered a Congregational Theological Institute at Quincy, Ill., to fit himself for the ministry. He remained there nearly three years when, on account of his father's sickness, he returned home. He nevertheless secured his diploma, and began the ministerial profession at Stockbridge, Madison County, N. Y., where he remained about one year. He continued to preach in New York State and Northern Pennsylvania for several years, and afterwards came to Illinois and preached in Bloom-

ingdale, Algonquin, Carpenterville, Dundee and one year at Huntley. He lived at Dundee and in that vicinity for three years (1852-1855). He then preached in Michigan and Ohio, looking after and preaching in the new churches under the auspices of the Home Missionary Society. He lived in Michigan four years, and then, on account of poor health, returned to Illinois just before the outbreak of the Civil War—perhaps in 1859. He then retired from the ministry, bought a farm and settled in Hampshire Township, Kane County, where he remained twelve years, but on account of advanced age, he and his wife went to Iowa to live with their daughter Julia. Here he died in 1885, aged about seventy-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Shapley were the parents of Charles B., Newell F. and Julia T.

Newell F. was a soldier in the Civil War and served as a private in the Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry for a term of three years. He was wounded in the battle of Pittsburg Landing and was discharged on account of disability, but upon partial recovery, was transferred to the Seventeenth Volunteer Cavalry, and served until the close of the war.

Charles B. Shapley was born on his grandfather Shapley's farm July 14, 1835, and was brought by his parents to Illinois in 1836, returning with them to New York State two years later. His father returned to Illinois with the family in 1859, and settled on a farm near Harmony in Hampshire Township, Kane County. Charles B. received a common school education and had learned the carpenter's trade in Toledo, Ohio, at which he had worked for some time. He married Dec. 31, 1861, Mary Jane Williams of Harmony, who was born March 14, 1840, at Eaton, Madison County, N. Y., daughter of James and Catherine (Jenkins) Williams.

James Williams was born in Cardiganshire, Wales, Feb. 15, 1819, son of David and Mary (Morgan) Williams. Their children were: James, David, Thomas, Ann, Elizabeth and William, all born in Wales. Mr. Williams was raised on a farm and received a limited common school education. His father died when he was fourteen years of age and after that time he took care of himself and assisted his mother to support the younger children. He married in Wales, May 7, 1838, Catherine Jenkins, born in Wales April 12, 1815, daughter of John A. and Mary Jenkins.



John A. Jenkins was born in Wales and he and wife were the parents of Jane, Catherine, Eleanor, Mary and John. In 1839 Mr. Jenkins and his family came to America in a sailing-vessel, and were seven weeks on the ocean from Liverpool to New York. They were accompanied by James Williams and wife and David Edwards, who had married Eleanor Jenkins. John A. Jenkins settled in Madison County, N. Y., where he had bought a farm. In 1847 he removed to Illinois and settled on a farm consisting of 260 acres in Coral Township, McHenry County. He was a substantial citizen and lived here until 1850, when he removed to Jefferson County, Wis., where he settled on land and passed the remainder of his days. Mr. Jenkins lived to be about ninety-four years old, and died Aug. 5, 1884. He was a member of the Welsh Congregational church.

After marriage, Charles B. Shapley and wife settled on a farm of twenty acres which he had bought in Grafton Township, and to which he added until he owned eighty acres of excellent farming land. He continued to work at his trade until he moved to Huntley in 1900, where he built his present residence. Politically Mr. Shapley is a Republican and voted for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. He has always taken an active interest in matters pertaining to good schools and has served in an able manner as a member of the School Board and as a School Trustee. Mr. Shapley has always been an industrious man, well known for his integrity of character, skillful in farming and a practical mechanic, having built many of the best buildings in this part of McHenry County.

Mr. and Mrs. Shapley adopted a son, Claude E. Williams, when he was four weeks old. He was the son of Walter W. Williams, a brother of Mrs. Shapley. His mother, Evelyn G. (Axtell) Williams, a daughter of Edwin and Lucy Axtell, died when Claude E. was four weeks old, and his father died ten years later at Leadville, Col. Mr. and Mrs. Shapley brought up the child as their own and gave him a good education. He married Nettie A. Welcome and settled on the old homestead, and they have one child, Walter W.

#### ABRAHAM STILL.

Abraham Still, who resides on his well-tilled farm adjacent to the city of Wood-

stock, is the son of William and Hannah (Bridges) Still. Both the Still and Bridges families were of English nativity. William Still was born in Lancashire, England, June 19, 1819, and was a farmer by occupation, which had also been his father's vocation. The latter owned a good farm and comfortable home, and had children named: Joseph, Hannah, Mary and William. He was a Methodist in religious belief, and died on his farm at a venerable age.

William Still married in Lancashire, England, Hannah Bridges, born in the same vicinity, and they settled in Lancashire where all their children were born, viz.: Ann, Fannie, Bridges, William and Joseph. In the autumn of 1852 Mr. Still brought his family to America, sailing from Hull, England, the voyage to Quebec occupying six weeks. From Quebec they came direct to Chicago, where they were met by Robert and Richard Harrison, who brought with them a team from Ringwood, McHenry County, and conveyed the family and their household goods to Ringwood Prairie. On arriving at the latter place, Mr. Still worked at farm-labor for a few years, after which he purchased an improved farm of 100 acres in Nunda Township. Several years later (in 1867) he bought the farm where Bridges Still now resides, which was a 200-acre tract of well-improved land supplied with good farm buildings. Here he lived the rest of his life and died in May, 1900, aged about eighty years; his wife dying in January of the same year, in the seventy-seventh year of her age. They were both members of the Methodist church and took an active part in its general welfare. In politics Mr. Still was a staunch Republican, and cast his vote for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln.

Abraham Still, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Lancashire, England, Feb. 17, 1844, and when eight years of age came with his parents to America. He well remembers the voyage, and was the only member of the family who did not suffer from sea-sickness. Young Still acquired a common-school education in the district schools of Nunda Township, and was reared to a life on the farm, a pursuit he has always followed.

In February, 1864, Mr. Still enlisted at Woodstock as a private in Company G, Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry, Capt. L. D. Kelly, and after seeing service at various points in Missouri,

was mustered out and discharged at Springfield, Ill., in January, 1866, after having served nearly two years. The Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry was under command of Col. John L. Beveridge, previously a Captain and Major of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and after the war Governor of the State. During its period of enlistment the regiment took part in the pursuit of the rebel General Price in his raid through Missouri, during which it marched some 1200 miles and saw much active service fighting Missouri bush-whackers and guerrillas. Among the points at which the regiment was stationed or took part in skirmishes or regular battles during this campaign, were Boonville, Independence, Lexington, Jefferson City, Springfield, Raleigh, Cape Girardeau and Fort Scott, Kans. One of its most active experiences was in the repulse of Price's attack on Jefferson City. It was also at Lawrence, Kans., shortly after the blood-thirsty and brutal raid on that place by the famous Quantrell. At this period a large portion of the State of Missouri was almost entirely depopulated and the soldiers endured much hardship and privation in consequence, at times, of the difficulty in securing rations. Mr. Still served as saddler of his company, being entrusted with the care of saddles and harnesses, and thus picked up much knowledge of this branch of business. The last few months of the regiment's service was spent at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., where it was mustered out in December, 1865, and discharged in January following at Springfield.

After the close of the war, Mr. Still returned to his farm in McHenry County. On October 3, 1869, he was married in Woodstock, Ill., to Adelina Hickox, who was born in McHenry Township, March 28, 1850, the daughter of Mark and Betsy (Abbott) Hickox. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Still settled on the old Still homestead in Nunda Township, where they resided for fifteen years and then removed to his present farm near the city of Woodstock, which was formerly the Mark Hickox estate, comprising an area of 120 acres. They were the parents of five children: Edgar B., Guy E., Maude E., Emilla May and Carrie D. Mr. Still is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church in which he has been a class-leader for many years, and has always taken an active interest in the affairs of his church. In politics he is a

Republican and is a School Trustee of Dorr Township.

Concerning Mr. Still's children, the following is of interest: Edgar is engaged in the drug business at Fairdale, Ill. He married Amanda Taylor, and they have two children, Perrie and Floyd.

Guy married Carrie Baird, and they reside in Woodstock, Ill., where he holds a position as clerk in the County Treasurer's office.

The remainder of Mr. Still's children reside at home. His daughter, Maude, is a clerk in Choat's mercantile establishment, a position she has ably filled for several years.

Mrs. Still died April 20, 1901.

#### JACOB SNYDER.

Mr. Jacob Snyder is one of the early settlers of Dorr Township, emigrating to Illinois from Pennsylvania, where he was born on a farm at Lime Stone Ridge, Northumberland County, and being the descendant of Pennsylvania-Dutch ancestry. He was raised on the farm by his mother, his father having died when he was an infant, leaving his mother with a family of the following children: Simon, Jacob, Ann, Lydia. Mrs. Snyder had previously been married to Thomas Van Kirk, and from this marriage there were: Thomas, Peter, Hannah and Hester. After Mr. Snyder's death, Mrs. Snyder married John Hoosel, and from this marriage there were David and Margaret.

Jacob Snyder was brought up among strangers, as a result of his father's death, but after his mother's marriage to John Hoosel, he had a home until Mr. Hoosel died, which occurred while he was yet a boy. After Mr. Hoosel's death, his mother removed to Bradford County, Pennsylvania, where Jacob engaged to work for a farmer. When twenty years of age he went to Chemung County, New York, and worked at farm work and lumbering in Steuben County, New York, until he moved west when he was twenty-five years of age. He had no chance of gaining an education and is entirely self-educated. In 1850 he came to Illinois, where he arrived on the 13th day of May. Here he hired out by the day, but the same fall bought eighty acres of land in company with David Hoosel, his half-brother. Two years later they divided the eighty, each retaining forty acres. This land had been but little improved, the only



building being an old log house. Mr. Snyder worked hard, improved his farm and was married in McHenry County, January 1, 1853, to Sarah S. Parks, born in Massachusetts, within fourteen miles of Boston, April 26, 1837, daughter of Jonathan and Almira (Wesson) Parks.

The Parks family were of old New England Puritan ancestry, and Jonathan H. owned a farm in the State of Massachusetts. In 1843 he settled in Stockbridge, and there bought a farm, where he lived until 1855, when he came to Illinois with his family, making the journey via the great lakes to Chicago. He settled in McHenry Township and bought eighty acres of land, part of which had been broken, but no buildings had been previously erected. Mr. Parks improved his farm, erected substantial buildings and made a good home and lived here until his death, July 28, 1856. Besides being a farmer he was a brickmaker and burned charcoal and lime, a pursuit he also followed in Massachusetts, during the two years he resided in that State. He was a natural mechanic and could do almost anything with tools. He laid the foundation of the Rock-bottom factory in Massachusetts. In religious belief he was a Universalist. He was an industrious and hard working man, highly respected by all, and reared an excellent family. The names of his children in order of their birth are: George, Martha, Mary, Sarah, Charles and Hannah.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Snyder settled on his farm consisting of one hundred and twenty acres of land in the eastern part of Dorr Township, where they first lived in an old log-cabin. Mr. Snyder went to Waukegan and bought a common iron-cookstove for which he paid \$30.00. This was before his marriage and when his mother was keeping house for him. Mr. Snyder's mother lived with him and Mrs. Snyder until her death, which occurred eighteen years after their marriage. She was eighty-eight years, eight months and eight days old. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder lived on the farm until they moved to their present home, Nov. 14, 1883. They worked hard on the old farm and converted it into excellent shape, besides adding to its area until they owned two hundred and forty acres of excellent farming land in Dorr and twenty-eight and one-half acres in Greenwood Township. In 1883 they bought nine and one-half acres within the cor-

poration of Woodstock, which now, after several years of their care, presents a very attractive appearance. Before leaving the old farm, Mr. Snyder had built a substantial frame house and barn besides several frame buildings. On account of being disabled for manual labor he has, for the past six years, devoted his attention to the selling of medicines. His attention was called to a remedy which has proven of great value. His wife was the victim of a serious nervous trouble which affected her memory, and was entirely cured after taking a course of treatment with this remedy called the "Oxien Nerve Food." Mr. Snyder began introducing it to the people in connection with other medicines of the same nature, and many remarkable cures have been effected by means of the merits of the various remedies he handles. One year he sold over \$230 worth of this one remedy, and so successful have been the cures of nervous diseases with these remedies that they have become a standard article. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are members of the Methodist Church. He served sixteen years as Road Commissioner in Dorr Township and two terms as School Director. They are the parents of one son, Charles H., who married Rosetta Sherman daughter of Jose and Mary Ann (Roan) Sherman.

Charles H. is a farmer and resides on the homestead near Woodstock. He and wife have two children: Alta H., who died at the age of ten years, and Nina May, now attending the public schools.

Mr. Jacob Snyder is a staunch Republican. With the assistance of his faithful and industrious wife he has earned, by honest, hard labor and economy, a valuable property.

#### PHILIP EDWARD SAUNDERS.

Philip Edward Saunders, insurance man and prominent citizen of Harvard, McHenry County, was born in New Haven, Conn., May 6, 1838, of colonial Puritan and English stock, his ancestry dating back to the early settlement of that portion of New England. Philip Saunders, his great-grandfather, was a resident of Tolland County, Conn., where he was a farmer and served as a soldier of the Revolution. His musket is still preserved in the family. A member of this family was with Col. Ethan Allen at the capture of Ticonderoga, in 1775.



Philip (2), the son of the preceding and grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was originally a farmer, but later engaged in merchandising. He married, and his children were: Asahel, Stephen, Christopher and a daughter, Maria, who married a Mr. Wilber. Philip (3), son of the preceding, was born in New Haven about 1785; was a merchant and did a large business, dealing in West India products. He married Nancy Smith, who was born at West Haven, Conn., the daughter of Capt. Ichabod and Martha (Richards) Smith. Her father was a sea-faring man, and, as Captain of the good ship Pacific, made many voyages to Mogadore on the coast of Africa. The children of Captain Smith were: Ichabod, Seaman, Simeon, Edgar, Nancy, Minerva, Angeline, Francis and Emily. The Smith family residence, which was erected by the father of Capt. Ichabod Smith more than 150 years ago, is still standing, and is occupied by descendants of the family. During the Revolutionary War, this house was visited by a party of raiding Hessians, who committed some depredations wounding Captain Smith's father, then an old man. After marriage, Philip Saunders (3) engaged in mercantile business in New Haven, residing there for the remainder of his life, dying in 1862, at the age of seventy-seven years. He was a member of the Episcopal church, and in politics an old line Whig. His children were: Martha, Eliza, Mariette, Jane, Adela, Lovisa, Virginia, Josephine, Charles and Philip Edward.

The last named, born as already stated, in New Haven, May 6, 1838, was reared in his native place and educated in the public schools of that city and at the Russell Institute. At an early age he went to New York City, where he was engaged for a time in a broker's office, but in 1859, went to Wisconsin and entered the employment of the Milwaukee & Mississippi Railroad at Prairie du Chien, having charge of the freight department. He remained there about three years when, in 1864, he came to McHenry County, Ill., and engaged in farming in Chemung Township. In 1870 he removed to Ft. Wayne, Ind., and was there connected with the freight department of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad until 1872, when he returned to McHenry County and engaged in the hardware business at Harvard. After being engaged in this line for a number of years Mr. Saunders

entered into the insurance business in Harvard, and is now the oldest representative, in point of service, of that business in Harvard. He represents a number of the largest Eastern, as well as several wealthy English companies, and has conducted a large and successful business for many years. He is recognized as one of the leading men in his line in Northern Illinois. On October 11, 1862, Mr. Saunders was married at Prairie du Chien, Wis., to Josephine Mary Bowen, who was born at Prairie du Chien, Feb. 29, 1844, the daughter of Elias S. and Minerva D. Bowen. Her father was a pioneer farmer of Crawford County, Wis., who was personally acquainted with Zachary Taylor and Jefferson Davis at old Fort Crawford, and was accustomed to relate many interesting reminiscences of that early period. His children were: Josephine M., who married Mr. Saunders, George and Harvey. Mr. and Mrs. Saunders are members of the Episcopal church, and are parents of the following named children: Philip, born July 18, 1864; Charles, born Jan. 30, 1866; Stuart, born May 19, 1868; Eugene, born Feb. 5, 1870; Harvey B., born Jan. 16, 1873; Foster B., born March 23, 1875, and Walter D., born April 8, 1877. Mr. Saunders is widely known as a representative citizen of Harvard, served as City Clerk for ten years, and has been Superintendent of the Water Works and the electric light plant, of which he was one of the principal promoters. This position he has recently resigned. He also held the office of Treasurer of Chemung Township for some twenty years. Fraternally he is a Mason and member of the Woodstock Commandery Knights Templar.

#### EUGENE SAUNDERS.

Eugene Saunders, one of the proprietors and manager of the mechanical department of the "Harvard Independent," was born in Chemung Township, McHenry County, Feb. 5, 1870, the son of Philip Edward and Josephine (Bowen) Saunders, and received his education in the public schools and the High School of Harvard. In 1887 he began to learn the printer's trade in the office of "The Harvard Independent," under editor O. S. Eastman, remaining until 1890. Then, after spending three years in various occupations, in 1893, he established a job-printing office in Harvard, which he conducted successfully for two years. In 1895 he bought an inter-

est in "The Harvard Independent," with Merton J. Emerson as partner, immediately assuming control of the mechanical department, which he has continued ever since, and which has resulted in a large improvement in the business of the concern. Mr. Saunders brought with him to his new position a large trade, but it has required much hard work and good management to bring the business up to its present state of prosperity. New presses, machinery and other appliances have been added to the establishment, and it now boasts the largest, most modern and best equipped newspaper press in McHenry County, while the business occupies the largest floor-space of any similar establishment in the county. For this result, as well as the skillful and workmanlike manner in which the affairs of the office are conducted, and the attractive appearance of the paper, much credit is due to Mr. Saunders. Mr. Saunders and Mr. F. R. Phelps, in copartnership, became proprietors of the Harvard Opera House in 1890.

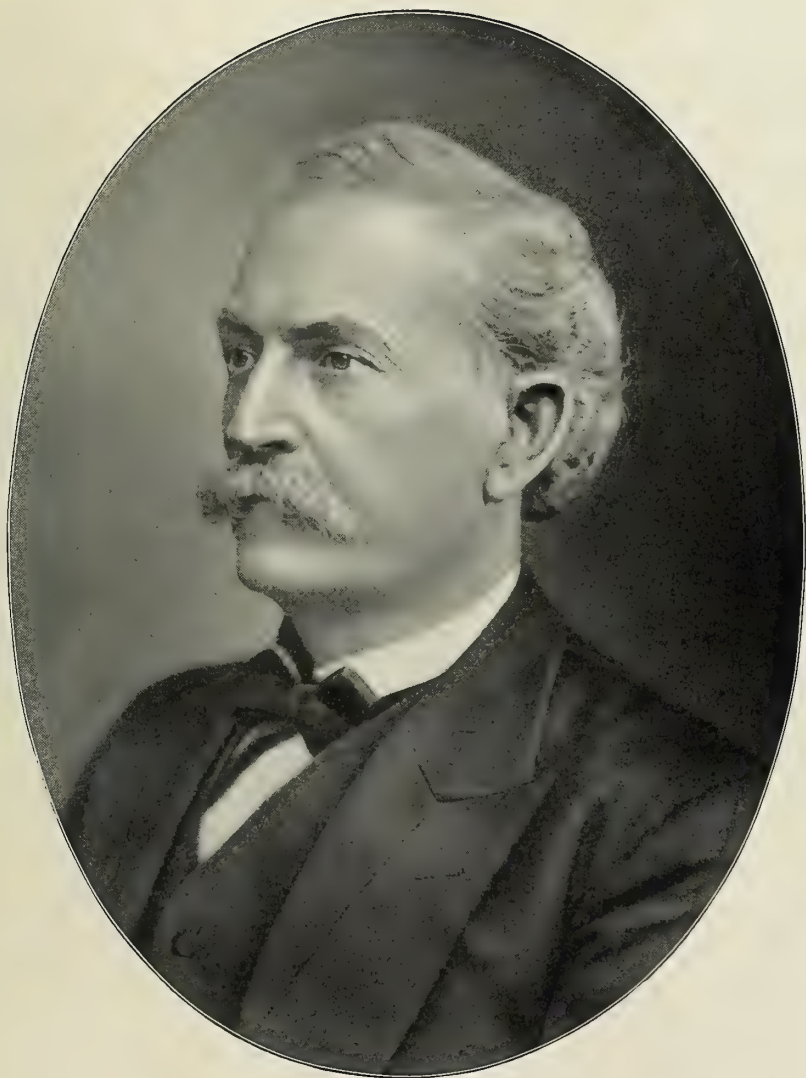
#### ISRAEL C. ST. CLAIR.

Israel Chamberlain St. Clair, one of the pioneers of McHenry County, now deceased, was born at Detroit, Mich., June 15, 1829, the son of William and Elizabeth (Simmons) St. Clair, and came with his parents to Chicago in 1835, and to McHenry County in 1837. His father settled on wild land and the family were true pioneers in a new country, where they endured all the hardships connected with pioneer life, shared its simple pleasures and took part in all the affairs of their locality. His parents were early members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in those pioneer days, the log houses of the early settlers serving as the homes of the Methodist itinerant preachers, and there religious services were frequently held. Israel C. St. Clair was reared amid the scenes and incidents of pioneer life, and here his early experiences assisted in forming those many traits of character which remained with him through life. He received the limited education afforded in the pioneer log-cabin schoolhouse, but possessing an intelligent mind, he read every good book to which he could gain access, and thus became well-informed, especially in history, of which he read extensively. He was a devout student of the Bible and passed many hours in reading its sacred pages, thus acquiring an ex-

tensive knowledge of the Book of Books. He was a successful farmer and stock-raiser and an expert in the manufacture of dairy products, taking several first premiums in this line at the county fairs. He married in Coral Township, June 15, 1852, Mary E., daughter of Samuel R. and Sallie (Bowley) Morris, and they became the parents of children named: Ellen, Morris, George, Leila and Susie. Mr. St. Clair moved on the old St. Clair homestead, on which he made improvements and established one of the pleasantest homes in McHenry County. Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. St. Clair, at different times, was steward and trustee. He joined the pioneer Methodist Episcopal church at Ridgefield when a boy. In politics he was an old line Whig, and later became a Republican on the organization of that party. Mrs. St. Clair was born Oct. 6, 1830, in Madison County, N. Y., the daughter of Samuel and Sallie (Bowley) Morris. Samuel Morris was descended from an old New York family, the town of Morrisville, N. Y., being named after them. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Morris moved to McHenry County, Ill., in 1840, and settled in Coral Township, and were among the pioneers of that vicinity. They were the parents of eight children, named as follows: Charlotte M., Sarah E., Mary E., Edwin R., Martha E. Wilbur F., Samuel J. and Charles W. Two sons—Edwin R. and Wilbur F.—served in the Civil War. Charles W. was drowned after enlistment, while in camp at Freeport, Ill.

#### JOHN J. STAFFORD.

John J. Stafford, leading furniture-dealer of Woodstock, also engaged in marble working and other enterprises, has for over twenty years been prominently identified with the business interests of his city. Mr. Stafford comes of good English ancestry, many of the early members of the family having settled in New England in colonial days. He was born in Rutland, Vt., August 17, 1863, the son of Jonas J. and Helen (Finn) Stafford. In 1868, when about five years old, he came with his parents to Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., where for a number of years he attended the public schools, cultivating his literary tastes, and developing habits of industry and atten-



*Chas H. Frazier*





tion, which have characterized him through life. Turning his attention to business at an early age he entered the wood-working establishment of his brother, L. H. Stafford, and there passed two years of profitable apprenticeship. Having mastered the details of the business, in 1880 he came to Woodstock and opened a furniture shop of his own, to which he added the undertaking business. High grade articles, prompt service, and square dealings won him patronage from the start; and wise financial management soon placed the business on a solid foundation. Trade has steadily increased, and he has from year to year enlarged his stock of goods, and made other improvements in the store. The business is now extensive and profitable. Encouraged by his success, in 1889, in company with A. J. Zoia, he opened a marble-works establishment under the firm name, "Stafford & Zoia." Here he has, if anything, been more successful than in the furniture business. Making a specialty of monuments, the firm has turned out some very artistic work, and orders come in from far and near. During the year 1901 the business yielded twenty thousand dollars.

In 1886 Mr. Stafford married in Woodstock, Marcella C. Donnelly, who was born in Woodstock, daughter of John Donnelly. Of this union there have been two children: Gordon and Marcellus.

Mr. Stafford started life with little but his own brains and muscle to depend upon, and has risen to a foremost place among the business men of his city. He has also found time to cultivate the literary and social sides of his nature. From year to year he has laid in a stock of good books, and his private library, where he passes his leisure hours, now contains some of the choicest literature of ancient and modern times. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of the Globe, and the Modern Woodmen of America, all of Woodstock. In politics he is a strong Democrat. He is outspoken, liberal in his views and possesses a high sense of honor.

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#### CAPT. CHARLES HOPKINS TRYON.

Capt. Charles Hopkins Tryon, present County Surveyor of McHenry County, was a soldier

and officer of the Civil War, and ranks among the pioneers and most honored and substantial citizens of this section of the State. He is of English ancestry through a colonial Puritan family, which settled in Massachusetts at an early day.\* His grandfather, William Tryon, was born at Deerfield, Mass., where the family were settlers before the date of the Deerfield massacre by the Indians. This Mr. Tryon married a Miss Hopkins, and was a soldier of the Revolution. Of his children, the names of Samuel, Ann and Bela are remembered. About 1827 he moved to Manlius, Onondaga County, N. Y., where he settled on a farm and spent the remainder of his days, dying at an advanced age. In religious faith he was a Presbyterian. Bela Hopkins Tryon, his son, was born at Deerfield in 1797, received a good common-school education, became a farmer and was married in 1825 to Miss Harriet Billings, daughter of Jesse Billings, also of Deerfield. About 1827 he accompanied his father to Onondaga County, N. Y., but in 1836 came to Milwaukee, Wis., to look up a home in the West. Having brought out his family the following fall, he first settled near Milwaukee, but in December of the following winter removed to McHenry County, Ill., settling in what is now Hebron Township. Having bought 200 acres of Government land, he built upon it a log-cabin, which he continued to occupy until he was able to build a commodious frame dwelling, bringing material for this purpose from Chicago. This house is still standing. He was the first Postmaster of Hebron, being appointed Dec. 23, 1839, and receiving his commission from Postmaster-General Amos Kendall. This is still retained in a good state of preservation in the family. He was also one of the first County Commissioners of McHenry County and the first Justice of the Peace in Hebron Township, holding the latter position until his death. Mr. Tryon was a man of wide intelligence, of undoubted integrity of character and a recognized leader in the community. Although brought up a Presbyterian, in his later years he became a Universalist. By industry, enterprise and economy he prospered until he became the owner of 1200 acres of land in McHenry County, besides lands in Wisconsin, which he left to his children. On the maternal side Mr. Tryon was descended from

Edward Hopkins, who emigrated from Shrewsbury, England, to Boston in 1637, afterwards removed to Hartford, Conn., and served as Governor of Connecticut Colony, from 1640 to 1654. Returning to England, he became Warden of the English fleet and a Member of Parliament, but died in 1657, leaving large bequests for the support of schools in New England. Among his descendants were some of the most distinguished men of New England and Pennsylvania, including Stephen Hopkins, for fourteen years Governor of Rhode Island in pre-Revolutionary times, and one of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence; Samuel Hopkins, D. D., of Yale College and founder of the "Hopkinsian Theology," and the celebrated theologian, Jonathan Edwards. It is said that Bela Hopkins Tryon, both physically and mentally, strongly resembled the two last named in his love for investigation of the occult and mysterious in divine truth and revelation. In politics Mr. Tryon was an old line Whig. He died at his home in Hebron Township, Jan. 4, 1848, leaving two sons—Charles H. (the subject of this sketch), born at Deerfield, Mass., June 2, 1826, and George F., born in Onondaga County, N. Y., in 1828.

Mrs. Harriet (Billings) Tryon, the wife of Bela H. Tryon, was the first white woman who ever resided in Hebron Township. Their home consequently became a favorite visiting place for the young men and others who had come west in search of new homes for themselves and families, and who here found some one to take a motherly interest in them and furnish them the rarity of a well-cooked meal. Meetings for singing were a favorite entertainment during the long winter evenings. On one of these occasions the company having enjoyed themselves in singing a number of popular airs and melodies of the time, finished with the grand old tune, "Hebron," when Mrs. Tryon remarked, "This is my choice of all tunes, and I think 'Hebron' would make a good name for our township." The idea was received with favor; an early meeting was held at her house for the purpose of fixing upon a name and, at this impromptu christening, it is said that Mrs. Tryon fried more than a bushel of crullers, which were devoured, smok-

ing hot, by her guests. She was a woman of marked ability and her home the center of hospitality and good cheer at that early day.

Charles Hopkins Tryon, born (as already stated) at Deerfield, Mass., June 2, 1826, was still an infant when his parents took him to Onondaga County, N. Y., in 1827, and about ten years of age on their removal to Illinois in 1836. Before leaving New York, he spent some time at an academy at Manlius; but after coming to Illinois, attended the first school in Hebron Township, taught by a Mr. Filkins in a frame house erected in District No. 1, about 1838. Among the scholars remembered were Edwin and Elvira Douglass; Thomas, Henry Eliza and Cornelia Gilbert; James and Clarissa Parker; Jeremiah Tuck, Milton Stewart, George F. Tryon and Emily Parker, now Mrs. Deacon Barrows of Woodstock. The school-house stood in the edge of the prairie, and herds of deer could often be seen from its windows. Other game was abundant, including wild geese, ducks, swans, pelicans and prairie chickens, while wolves could be heard howling at night. Charles and his brother George often carried their rifles with them to school, and killed many deer in their time. The Winnebago and Pottawatomie Indians had formerly had a village in a grove near the Tryon home, but it was deserted after the Black Hawk War. Some members of these tribes were accustomed to return here to hunt in the fall and winter, and camped on the site of the old village. They were peaceful, and often visited the Tryon home and received food from the hand of Mrs. Tryon.

Attending this school in winter and working on the farm in summer until eighteen years of age, Mr. Tryon obtained the rudiments of an English education, studied geography, English grammar and, later, algebra, natural philosophy and astronomy—a rather extensive curriculum for a country school—but Mr. Tryon insists that the common branches were well taught. Among his teachers were Gardner and Lathrop Barrows—the latter, Deacon Barrows of Woodstock. "Webster's Elementary Speller" was in use, and spelling-matches in vogue. The young people would come together from miles distant on ox-sleds, and spend a winter evening in what was, to them, a delightful and improv-





*Mrs C H Bryon*



ing diversion, with the result that many became accurate spellers. "The Columbian Orator," "English Reader" and "Kirkham's Grammar" were other school-books of the time, and it is doubtful if any others of the present day have produced more thorough and accurate scholars in the particular branches to which the attention of pupils were directed by the books and teachers of that period. When about nineteen, Mr. Tryon spent a term in the Ringwood Academy studying surveying, at twenty-one was elected a Justice of the Peace in place of his father (then deceased), holding the office four years. In January, 1848, he was married to Laura A. Hodge, daughter of Robert W. and Sallie Hodge, born in Onondaga County, N. Y., about 1828. Mr. Hodge came to Hebron Township somewhat later than the Tryons, and improved a farm of 160 acres, where he died at an advanced age. His children were: Laura A. and Sarah. After marriage Mr. Tryon remained on the paternal homestead, settled up the estate—of which he was administrator—he and his brother dividing about 1,000 acres of land between them. For many years he managed a farm of some 500 acres, but long after the death of his son, Bela H., sold all but 120 acres, which he still retains.

August 13, 1862, Mr. Tryon enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War, was elected Captain of Company H, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which he had been instrumental in organizing, and was mustered in at Rockford. He served in Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi, but, at the expiration of about a year, was honorably discharged on account of disability from wounds accidentally received. In 1882 he was elected Representative in the Thirty-third General Assembly, and was assigned to the Committees on Agriculture, Horticulture, Dairying and State Institutions. Of his record in the Legislature, "The Illinois State Journal" of June, 1883, said:

"Among the quiet and unobtrusive members of the General Assembly during the recent session, there has been none who looked more faithfully or conscientiously after the interests of his constituents and the people of the State generally, than Hon. Charles H. Tryon, Representative from the Eighth District. Though an infrequent speaker, and seldom calling attention to himself on the floor, his industry and close attention to business secured for him a degree of influence exerted by few members on

either side of the House. He was particularly influential in securing the passage through the House of two measures—one a bill providing for the more certain conviction and effective punishment of persons guilty of burglary, forgery, etc., the other a bill authorizing the erection of private telegraph and telephone lines of much importance to suburban and farming communities. It is doubtful if any man leaves the General Assembly with more earnest friends on both sides of the House, while the respect and confidence won by his high character for honesty and fair-dealing, have placed him in a position to serve his constituents even more efficiently in the future than in the past."

In politics Captain Tryon was originally an old-line Whig, later a Republican, and, fraternally, a Mason. He served as a member of the McHenry County Board of Supervisors for Hebron Township, 1852-54; in 1888 was elected County Surveyor, has been re-elected every four years since and renominated and re-elected in 1900—his constant re-election proving his satisfactory administration of the office. In 1891 Captain Tryon came to Woodstock to reside, as the location afforded better conveniences for discharging the duties of his office as County Surveyor. Captain Tryon's household consists of his wife, himself and "Bonnie Doon" (Loula Blanche Tryon), eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ira (Billings) Tryon. She is the second of four children, the others being Charles Leon Russell, George Leslie Billings and Ruth Marguerite. The grandfather of these children, George Frederick Handel Tryon, was Captain Tryon's only brother. Loula Blanche is attending the public school in Woodstock, where she is an industrious student and an excellent musician for her age. The death of Captain Tryon's brother, which occurred many years ago, left a shadow over his life that time fails to remove, and still living amid the scenes of their boyhood and maturer manhood, their happy days together are freshly kept in his memory. But, while cherishing the recollections of his lost ones, he has been constant in weaving a chaplet of tenderness for the living.

Captain Tryon's first wife died in 1876 leaving two children—Jessie M., who married Mr. George Trow, a farmer of Hebron Township, and Bela A., a young man of high promise, who died at the age of twenty-six years. On July 4, 1877, Captain Tryon was married to Mrs. Marion E. Sherman, the daughter of Daniel and Clarinda (Watson) Downs, born in Oswego



County, N. Y., Nov. 18, 1841. Mr. Downs was a native of Ireland, was brought by his parents to America at seven years of age, came to Wisconsin in 1844 and settled in Walworth County near Lake Geneva, where he had a farm of 160 acres. Previous to coming to Wisconsin he was married at Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., to Clarissa Watson, a native of that place and daughter of Major and Mary (Robinson) Watson. Major Watson, while young, was a prisoner for a time among the Indians and compelled to run the gauntlet; was later adopted by an Indian chief, but assisted by a fur-trader to escape. He became a soldier in the War of the Revolution, serving under Washington and LaFayette, and taking part in the battle of Monmouth; also served in the War of 1812, was an active participant in the battle of Sackett's Harbor, was captured by the British and placed on board a prison-ship, from which he was finally released through the intervention of the President. He came to Wisconsin with his daughter, Mrs. Downs, dying there at the age of one hundred years, three months and twenty-one days, and is buried in Hebron Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Downs had eight children: James, Daniel, William, John, Jane A., Ann M., Clara E. and Marion E. James served in the Seventeenth Illinois Cavalry during the Civil War, but returned broken in health, dying a few years after. Daniel Downs (the father) was an Old School Presbyterian and a Democrat in politics. He died in 1878, aged seventy-six years.

Mrs. Marion E. Tryon acquired a superior education in the common schools, the Walworth County Institute and the Liberal Institute at Jefferson, Wis., taught for a time in Walworth County and the graded school at Lake Geneva, establishing a reputation as a successful educator. She is also a versatile writer and has been a contributor to the local press. The following tender little poem from her pen is a loving tribute to the winsome little lassie of her hearthstone:

**"BONNIE DOONE."**

Today, within my workbox's depths,  
Wound 'round with skeins of rainbow hue,  
And nestled in their silken folds,  
I found a little worn out shoe.  
The precious wearer rightly guessed  
It would an added treasure be,  
And memory's chords would deeper thrill  
To know she placed it there for me.

Dear little shoe! Remembrance holds  
A childlike form with spirit meek,  
The sunset glory on her hair,  
The wild rose blooms on lip and cheek;  
A winsome face upraised to mine  
With tender, pleading, glorious eyes,  
That must have caught, to light their depth,  
Some wandering beam from Paradise.

Two little hands that have a way  
Of slipping into mine, with just  
A semblance of that broader faith  
O'er-leaping time and scorning dust:  
A little couch, a quiet room,  
Where evening shadows noiseless creep,  
Two clinging arms, a good-night kiss,  
A soft, "I lay me down to sleep."

And holding oft a dimpled hand,  
While lids drop down in slumbrous ease,  
More clearly than I understand—  
"My Kingdom is of such as these."  
I may not part the mystic veil  
That lies my darling's path before,  
Know if these little, untried feet  
Will reach the bounds of childhood's shore;

Or who will guide her tender youth  
With loving care in home's dear fold;  
So oft across love's fairest bower  
The winds of Fate blow strangely cold;  
But O! my darling, when my heart  
Breathes oft to heaven life's fondest care,  
My rosary is thy sweet young face,  
And tenderest thoughts for thee my prayer.

**MRS. MARY E. TRUAX.**

**Genealogy of the Gregory Family.**—John Gregory was the name of the founder of the Gregory family in America. Judah, who was the son of a John Gregroy, and who came from Norwalk, Conn., in January, 1685, was one of the eight original settlers of the town of Danbury, Conn. Judge Savage, the eminent authority on genealogy, expresses the opinion that he was probably the son of John, the first of the name in America. Judah married Oct. 20, 1664, Hannah, the daughter of Walter Haite, and their children were: Hannah, born Sept. 24, 1666; John, born March 17, 1669; Percie, born Feb. 11, 1672; Joseph, born July 16, 1674; Lydia, born Jan. 9, 1677; Josiah, born July 13, 1679; Benjamin, born March 26, 1682. It is believed that Judah may have been one of the proprietors of New Haven, in 1672, before his settlement at Danbury. John, the son of Judah, was one of the early Justices of the Peace at Danbury.



Bonnie Dorn





In "Bailey's History of Danbury" his name is mentioned many times, and always in honorable terms.

One of the earliest of the Gregory family to settle in New England was Henry, who was born in Nottinghamshire, England, and settled at Springfield, Mass., in 1636. He brought with him his family, consisting of his wife and grown-up sons and daughters, and died at Stratford, Conn., in 1655, aged eighty-five years. His oldest son, John, born in Nottinghamshire, between 1600 and 1610, was probably married in his native country; after coming to America lived for some years at New Haven, Conn., but in 1655 became one of the original settlers at Norwalk. His son Judah was one of eight men who, in 1685, made the first settlement of Danbury, Conn., and from him the Danbury Gregorys were descended, including most of those who settled in Northern Illinois.

The line of descent of Mrs. Truax' family, as near as can be traced, is as follows: First, Henry Gregory, of Nottinghamshire, England, and later of Springfield, Mass., and Hartford, Conn.; Second, John Gregory, a native of Nottinghamshire, England, and one of the first settlers of Norwalk, Conn., in 1655; Third, Judah Gregory, of Norwalk, Conn., one of the original settlers of Danbury, 1685; Fourth, John Gregory; Fifth, Samuel Gregory; Sixth, Ephraim Gregory; Seventh, Samuel Gregory; Eighth, Miles Gregory; Ninth, Stephen Olmstead—all after the third generation, natives of Danbury, Conn.

Following the later record of the family, it appears that Stephen O. Gregory (deceased), late of McHenry County, was descended from Ephraim Gregory, Sr., and his wife Esther (Stephens) Gregory, the latter the daughter of Stephen and Hannah (Olmstead) Benedict. Their children were: Samuel, Eliphalet, Anna and Elijah. Ephraim Gregory died in October, 1775. The next in line was Samuel, who was born Nov. 5, 1764, and married Lorena Olmstead, born March 16, 1768, and died Sept. 21, 1848, aged eighty years. Their children were: Miles, Ezra, Stephen Olmstead, Ephraim, Harry, Esther, Cordelia, Eliphalet, Hannah and Samuel. Samuel, Sr., died May 19, 1830, aged sixty-six years. Of the next generation, Miles, born Nov. 26, 1784, married Annis Bronson and they had children as follows: William August-

tus, Bailey, Stephen Olmstead, Dennis (1), Lorena, Mary, Sarah, Dennis (2) and Jane. Miles died Nov. 7, 1828, aged forty-four years. The next in genealogical descent was Stephen Olmstead, married for his first wife Mary Perry and his second, Ruth Ann Olmstead. Stephen Olmstead Gregory was born in Danbury, Conn., Feb. 9, 1811. The family were of Scotch ancestry, the founders of the American branch coming with the early Puritan emigrants to Massachusetts, and finally settling in Connecticut. Ephraim Gregory, who has already been mentioned as dying in October, 1775, and from whom there is no break in the genealogical record, was a respected resident of Danbury previous to the Revolution, but died too early to take part in the war, while his son Samuel was too young to become a soldier. The latter became a blacksmith by occupation. Miles, the son of Samuel, was born in Danbury, where he spent his whole life, dying at the age of forty-four years. He was a blacksmith by trade, as his father was before him, and was a member of the Methodist church. His wife, Annis Bronson, was the daughter of Ezra and Anna (Knapp) Bronson, the former having enlisted as a soldier in the Revolutionary War at sixteen years of age.

Stephen O. Gregory, who has been mentioned in the earlier part of this record, was a farmer, and was also engaged in mercantile business. About 1849, he moved to Carbondale, Penn., where he again adopted the life of a farmer, but in the spring of 1852 came to McHenry County, Ill., and settled on a tract of eighty acres of land, on which a log house had been built, and a few acres brought under cultivation. This land he still further improved, and made additions to it until he was the owner of 200 acres with good buildings. Having sold this farm he bought another of 335 acres, upon which he erected a pleasant residence and substantial farm buildings. This is now the homestead of his daughter, Mrs. Mary E. Truax. In politics Mr. Gregory was an independent, having taken an oath that he would support the best men for office without fear or favor of any party. In their religious belief Mr. and Mrs. Gregory were Methodists. Their children were: Mary E., William H., and Cordelia J. Mr. Gregory died in 1892 at the age of eighty-one years, and his wife one year later (1893) about the same age.

Mrs. Mary E. (Gregory) Truax, the daughter of Stephen O. Gregory, received a common-school education in her Eastern home, and coming west with her parents in 1852, at the age of fourteen years, attended school in what was then called the McConnell district in Dorr Township, McHenry County. She married Dayton B. Truax, who was born in Cortland County, N. Y., the son of Isaac and Sophia (Short) Truax. Mr. Truax came to McHenry County when about twenty-two years of age, and has always been a farmer. For many years he and his wife have resided on the old Gregory homestead, where they cared for Mrs. Truax's venerable parents during the latter years of their lives. Mr. Truax is an independent in politics and an industrious and public-spirited citizen of straightforward character, who enjoys the confidence and respect of the community. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Truax are: George R.; Mattie, who died at the age of thirty-four years, and Stephen Earl. The latter is a traveling salesman for a wholesale shoe-house, with which he has been connected for the past twelve years. George R. married Kittie Tower, and they have one son, Donald. The Truax family is one of the best known in McHenry County and Mrs. Truax is a fine example of a class of citizens descended from the early settlers who assisted in the development of McHenry County, and whose enterprise and public spirit have contributed to make it what it has become during the last generation—one of the most prosperous sections of the State, peopled by an intelligent and enterprising community. A lady of intelligence and high standing in the community, she has taken deep interest in the genealogical record of the family which has played so important a part in the history of the country. Her parents were widely known among the early settlers of McHenry County as people of high moral principle and upright course of life.

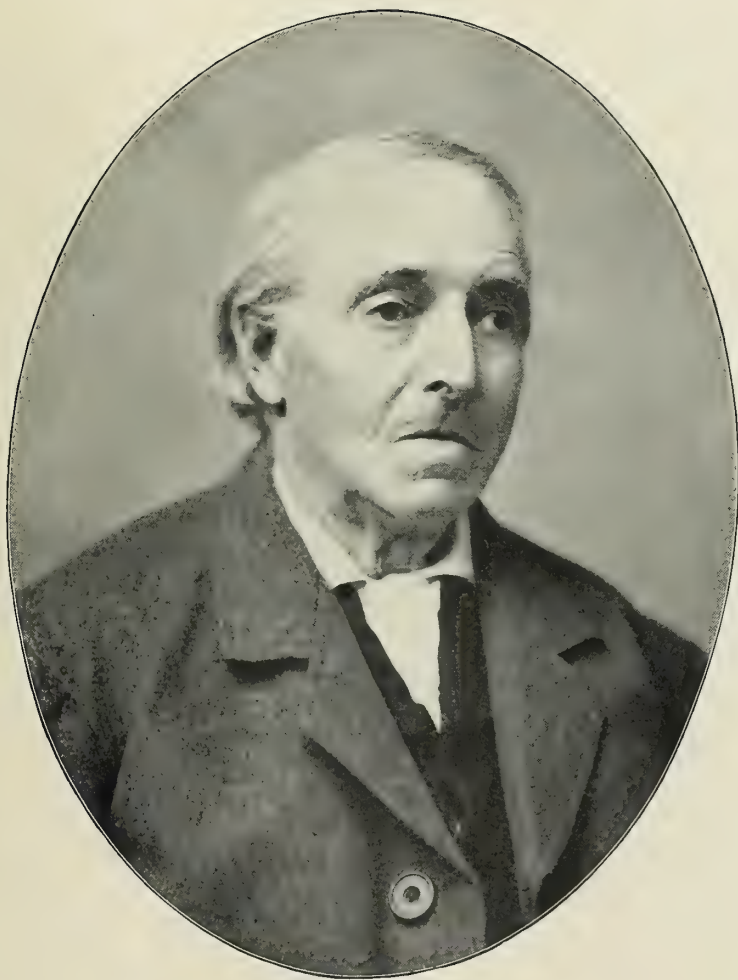
**Gregory Revolutionary History.**—The record of the Gregory family in connection with the War of the American Revolution may properly be inserted here: In 1772 a cavalry company was organized at Danbury, Conn., under the name of the Fourth Company, Third Regiment, Third Brigade, which served in the Revolutionary War under command of General Israel Put-

nam, with Benjamin Hickox as Lieutenant, who was afterwards promoted to the rank of Major. At the battle of White Plains, Lieutenant Hickox was in command. Eight of those connected with the ancestral stock of Col. Samuel Gregory—who was a soldier of the Civil War—were soldiers in the War of the Revolution, and two were soldiers in the War of 1812. Col. Ira Gregory was Marshal of the Day on occasion of the celebration of the Fourth of July, 1838, at Danbury, Conn., and in the procession were sixty soldiers of the Revolution, and one hundred who had served in the War of 1812. Twenty-five of the Gregory name from different Connecticut towns, who were all of the original Gregory stock, served in the Revolution, two of these being Samuel Gregorys, who were distant relatives from Danbury. The Gregorys were blood relatives of many other Danbury families.

The grandfather of Reverend Bronson was Amos Bronson, a Baptist minister who hailed from Tolland, Conn., but later became a resident of Fairfield. He was the father of several sons, one of whom was Ezra Bronson, mentioned in the earlier part of the history of the Gregory family. Ezra Bronson married in Danbury, Conn., Anna Knapp, and to them were born twelve children. Ezra Bronson became a soldier of the Revolutionary War at sixteen years of age. An incident of the war was the attack of the British on Danbury. Having landed at Horse Neck, the British troops started on foot for Danbury, intending to burn the provision stores there. Warned of their approach from Norwalk, the people of Danbury fled from their homes. Anna Knapp, then about thirteen years of age, accompanied by two of her sisters, fled on horseback to the adjoining towns of New Fairfield, while a man in the employ of the family followed with a cart drawn by a yoke of oxen and a horse (a Yankee team), carrying the household furniture and provisions. The Congregational church, located in the center of the village of Danbury was stored with pork. The provision houses in the town were burned and, on her return to her home two days later, Anna Knapp rode through grease over fetlock deep to the horse.

#### ANDREW THOMAS.

Andrew Thomas (deceased), former honored pioneer and prominent citizen of McHenry



*Andrew Thomas.*







*Mrs. Andrew Thomas.*





County, Ill., was born at Windsor, Mass., Oct. 14, 1806, the son of Zadoc and Chloe (Tinkham) Thomas. Zadoc Thomas, the father, was of Scotch descent and was born in Bridgewater, Mass., Sept. 20, 1772, while his wife, Chloe Tinkham, was a native of Middlebury, same State, born May 3, 1780. The wife died at Volney, N. Y., Sept. 20, 1828, in the forty-ninth year of her age, and her husband at the same place, April, 1848, in his seventy-sixth year. The children of Zadoc Thomas and wife were: Cassandra, born at Bridgewater, Mass., Feb. 23, 1800, died in Volney, N. Y., Oct. 16, 1833; Clarinda, born at Windsor, Mass., July 15, 1802, died at Windsor, Mass., Oct. 22, 1805; James Tinkham, born at Windsor, Mass., Dec. 29, 1803, died at Dalton, Mass., February, 1831; Albert, born at Windsor, Mass., April 6, 1805, died in Michigan, Nov. 28, 1872; Andrew, born at Windsor, Mass., Oct. 14, 1806, died at West McHenry, Ill., Dec. 29, 1888; Mercena, born at Windsor, Mass., Nov. 11, 1808, died at Chipewa, Wis., Aug. 18, 1873; Nancy Jane, born at Windsor, Mass., Jan. 16, 1811, died at West Bend, Wis., April 5, 1855; Celia Lucinda, born at Windsor Mass., Jan. 13, 1816, died at Newton, Ohio, Oct. 20, 1842; Alason Thurston, born at Windsor, Mass., April 27, 1818, died at Jamestown, Penn., Dec. 16, 1878; George W., born at Windsor Mass., Jan. 7, 1823, died at Volney, N. Y., Aug. 26, 1894. (The above items, except as to death of Andrew Thomas, are taken from the record prepared by him sometime before his death.) Zadoc Thomas was a pioneer resident of Volney, N. Y., where he settled in 1825. His son, Andrew Thomas, was educated in the common school of his native State, and also learned the carpenter's trade there, after which, at the age of about nineteen years, he accompanied his parents to their new home in New York. On Sept. 25, 1833, he married at Mexico, N. Y., Elvira A. Brown, and they afterwards settled at West Volney, where he bought a small tract of twenty acres of land, upon which he built a house and barn. In 1840 he came west, locating first in Lake County, Ill., but in September of the same year removed to McHenry County, which became his permanent home. The journey westward was made by team to Buffalo, thence by lake to Toledo, Ohio, and then by teams overland to Chicago, to which point their furniture had been shipped around the lakes.

After coming to McHenry County, Mr. Thomas entered a tract of eighty acres of land, for which he paid the Government price of \$1.25 per acre. This land was mostly prairie and is now a part of the Thomas homestead. Here he built a log house in which he lived until it was replaced by a more comfortable frame dwelling. He was a skillful mechanic and erected his own buildings which are still standing in good condition. He added to his real estate until he was the owner of 220 acres, also becoming a successful stock-raiser, devoting his attention especially to the breeding of Poland-China hogs and Spanish merino sheep, of the latter having at one time a flock of 350 head. Mr. Thomas was a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, and was an important factor in securing the construction of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad through McHenry County. He was a Jeffersonian Democrat in his political views, and he and his family were attendants upon the Universalist church at McHenry, of which he was a liberal supporter. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were: Andrew W., born Jan. 9, 1835, died Dec. 15, 1899; James M., born Dec. 23, 1836, died July 18, 1854; Julius A., born Oct. 6, 1839, served in the Civil War as a member of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, died July 21, 1890; Mary A., born Feb. 23, 1842, died Aug. 6, 1850; Eliza J., born May 16, 1844; George C., born Dec. 16, 1846; William H., born July 31, 1849; Laura M., born Dec. 26, 1851; Warren, born July 26, 1855; Emma D., born Jan. 25, 1858. Of these children the three oldest were born in New York State.

Laura Melissa Thomas, daughter of Andrew and Elvira A. (Brown) Thomas, was married Nov. 16, 1876, to Leonard Harrison, who was born in McHenry County, the son of William Harrison. They first settled on the William Harrison homestead in McHenry County, afterwards removing to Nebraska and later to Slayton, Minn. Their children were Alta (deceased), Eugene Clayton, Leon, Elmer and William (deceased). On March 29, 1897, Mrs. Harrison married for her second husband, Julius Randall, who is now a hardware merchant at Genoa Junction, Wis.

Mrs. Andrew Thomas (nee Elvira A. Brown) was born at Linnsboro, Berkshire County, Mass., where her father died while she was still an infant. His first name is not remem-

bered, but her mother, Sarah Brown, was the daughter of Nathan and Susannah Brown, and Elvira A. was brought up by her grandparents. Her grandparents having removed to New York, settled at Phoebeus, in that State, and here her grandmother having died, her grandfather, Nathan Brown, moved to Oswego County. He finally died at the home of his son-in-law, Zadoc Pierce, at Volney, N. Y., at an advanced age. Mrs. Thomas' mother, Sarah Brown, was twice married, her second husband being Elisha Harrington, who moved with his father and family to Michigan. Mr. Harrington died en route at Rochester, N. Y. The family settled near Whitewater, Mich. Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Harrington had four children: Nathan, Lyman E., Jennette and one daughter born in Michigan, whose name is not remembered. Mrs. Harrington died in Michigan.

Mrs. Andrew Thomas still survives (1903) at the advanced age of ninety years, in the enjoyment of her mental and physical energies in a remarkable degree. Her retentive memory enables her to furnish much entertainment to her friends of the present day, as she has a vivid recollection of the experiences of pioneer life—the days of the loom and the spinning-wheel, with which she formed a practical acquaintance in her early days in McHenry County.

GEORGE CLARENCE THOMAS, the son of Andrew and Elvira A. (Brown) Thomas, was born in McHenry Township, McHenry County, Dec. 16, 1847; received a good common-school education while working on the farm in the summer months, and, on Sept. 23, 1875, was married at the Sayler homestead in McHenry Township, to Alma Augusta Sayler, who was born March 22, 1856, the daughter of James and Melissa Wealthy (Sherman) Sayler. (See sketch of James Sayler.) After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Thomas settled on eighty acres of land which had received but little improvement in the way of buildings. This land he has since greatly improved, erecting on it good buildings, setting out orchards and shrubbery and now has a delightful home as the result of years of industry and good management, in which he has been aided by his faithful wife. Of independent and liberal views, Mr. Thomas is a firm believer in the doctrines taught by Thomas Jefferson, and is an adherent of the

principles of the Democratic party. He enjoys the confidence of the community and has served as a member of the School Board in his district. Mrs. Thomas is a member of the Christian church, and they are the parents of the following named children: Callie Melissa, born Oct. 13, 1877; Ray Leslie, born July 28, 1879, and Ella Elvira, born May 18, 1887.

#### WILLIAM H. THOMAS.

William Henry Thomas, farmer and prominent citizen of McHenry Township, McHenry County, was born on the paternal homestead in McHenry County, July 31, 1849, the son of Andrew Thomas (whose sketch, see elsewhere in this volume). The son, William Henry, received the usual common-school education of his time and locality, and upon his father's farm acquired a practical knowledge of the life of the farmer, which he has followed ever since.

On November 23, 1881, William Henry Thomas was married at Ringwood, Ill., to Hiley A. Grimoldby, who was born at Cary Station, Ill., June 18, 1862, the daughter of Christopher and Charlotte (Walmsley) Grimoldby. The father, Christopher Grimoldby, was a native of England, born at Tetney, Lincolnshire, Dec. 6, 1819, the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Snow) Grimoldby. Thomas Grimoldby was a farmer and lived on a rented farm which he occupied on the long-lease system customary in England, under which the same family often retained possession of the same farm for generations. Mr. Grimoldby and wife were the parents of the following named children: Thomas, James, Henry, Benjamin, Reuben, Israel, Lusby, Henry, John, Mary, Dinah, Melcha (or Milcah), Leah and Elizabeth. The family were members of the Church of England. Thomas Grimoldby and wife both died in their native England—he at the age of eighty-three years and she aged fifty-three.

Christopher Grimoldby, the son of the preceding, received a common-school education in his native place, and in boyhood was trained up to the life of a farmer, which he pursued through his life. He was married in South Lincolnshire, England, Nov. 23, 1850, to Charlotte Walmsley, who was born in Grimoldby, April 24, 1824. After marriage they settled on a farm near the home of his parents, where they remained until 1854, when they came to





*Chua Thompson*



*Mrs. Shira Thompson.*





America, sailing from Hull, England, to Quebec, on a sailing-vessel, the "Fergus," the voyage occupying seven weeks and three days. From Canada they soon after came on to Chicago, thence proceeding to Cary Station, McHenry County, where Mr. Grimoldby began farming on rented land. In 1867 he bought a farm of partially improved land near Fort Hill, in Lake County, consisting of fifty-five acres. Here he lived until 1881, when he moved to Ringwood, McHenry County, where he bought 160 acres of improved land, and upon this he lived until 1883, when he retired from business, moving to McHenry. Mr. Grimoldby was an industrious man and, after coming to America, was quite successful. He and his wife had children named: Thomas C., born at Tetney, England, Oct. 3, 1851; John W., born at Tetney, England, March 8, 1853, died at Colorado Springs, Colo., Oct. 7, 1902; Benjamin W., born in Montreal, Can., Aug. 22, 1855, died Feb. 25, 1881; Georgia W. born at Cary Station, Ill., Nov. 20, 1855; Charles Henry, born March 31, 1860; Hiley A., born at Cary Station, June 18, 1862; Loveina E., born at Fort Hill, Lake County, July 3, 1867.

Mr. and Mrs. Grimoldby were members of the Christian church. He died at the home of his son-in-law, William H. Thomas, Oct. 29, 1898. His wife, Charlotte (Walmsley) Grimoldby, was the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Craft) Walmsley. Her father was a farmer, and was twice married, his first wife being Sarah Needham, by whom he had five daughters: Elizabeth, Mary, Soboena, Eliza and Susan. Mrs. Grimoldby was the only child by her father's second marriage. Her father came to America and settled in New York State in 1827, many years afterwards coming to Wauconda, McHenry County, Ill., where he died.

Since his marriage William Henry Thomas has lived on the old homestead and has established for himself a reputation as one of the reliable and trustworthy citizens of McHenry County. He and his wife have two children: Elbert Anderson, born Feb. 11, 1884, and Hazel Arlene, born May 1, 1892. In politics he is a Democrat. In company with his brother Warren, he now owns 260 acres of fine farming land.

WARREN THOMAS, brother of the preceding and son of Andrew Thomas (deceased), was born in McHenry County, Ill., July 26, 1855.

He received in his home township a common-school education and has always followed the life of a farmer on the family homestead. On Nov. 29, 1889, he married Loveina E. Grimoldby, the daughter of Christopher and Charlotte (Walmsley) Grimoldby, and sister of Mrs. William Henry Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Warren Thomas have one child, Emil Warren, born June 21, 1891. They are members of the Christian church.

The two brothers William Henry and Warren Thomas, occupy adjoining dwellings on the old family homestead, purchased of the Government in 1840, and their surroundings give evidence of that thrift and prosperity which has attended their career as enterprising and successful farmers.

#### AHIRA THOMPSON.

Ahira Thompson, pioneer settler and Civil War veteran, Marengo, McHenry County, is of combined English and Welsh descent through Puritan ancestors who were among the founders of Massachusetts Bay Colony. His grandfather, Moses Thompson, was a native of Massachusetts who served seven years in the War of the Revolution, taking part in the battle of Bunker Hill. In later life he settled on a farm in New Hampshire. He was a ship carpenter by trade and spent some time in the service of the Government getting out ship timber in Florida. He finally died near Proctorsville, N. H. Three of his children, whose names are remembered, were: Isaac, Jonathan and Moses.

Jonathan Thompson, son of the preceding and father of the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Massachusetts, where he received a limited education and, in boyhood, removed with his father to New Hampshire. He became a farmer and married in Vermont Polly Reed, daughter of Stephen Reed, who belonged to an old colonial family and was a soldier of the Revolution. Mr. Reed was a farmer at Wethersfield, Conn., where he died at the age of ninety-six years. His children were: Silas, Jesse, John, James, Martha and Polly.

After marriage Jonathan Thompson settled at Irasburg, Vt., on land which had been granted to Col. Ethan Allen for service during the Revolutionary War. Here he improved a farm of 100 acres from a tract of 150 acres, remaining until 1829, when he sold out his Ver-

mont home and removed to Ashtabula County, Ohio, then called "New Connecticut," settling near the town of Monroe. Here he bought 160 acres of heavily timbered land upon which he built a block-house and, assisted by his stalwart sons, cleared up a farm of 120 acres on Ashtabula Creek. His three sons—Lemon, Clark and Ahira—moved to McHenry County, Ill., in 1835, '36 and '37, and, in 1840, Ahira returned to Ohio and brought out his parents, making the journey overland with wagon and horses. Having sold his land in Ohio, Jonathan Thompson, on coming to McHenry County in company with his sons, invested his money in land in Coral Township, settling on a small farm on which his sons built a house for him. Here he spent the remainder of his days, dying in 1858 at the age of eighty-three, and his wife at eighty-five years. The latter was a member of the Christian Church. Their children, all born in Irasburg, Vt., with dates of birth, were: Martha, March, 5, 1805; Stephen, June 18, 1808; William, Aug. 30, 1809; Lemon, June 23, 1811; Amanda, Jan. 2, 1813; Fannie, June 22, 1815; Clark, Oct. 8, 1816; Lucy, June 24, 1818; Ahira, April 6, 1819; Mary, Dec. 2, 1821; Sarah, Sept. 2, 1823.

Ahira Thompson was born on the old farm in Vermont and was ten years of age when his father removed to Ohio—the journey being made to Burlington, Vt., by wagon, thence by steamer over Lake Champlain to White Hall, and from there by canal to Buffalo—this being the third year after the completion of the Erie Canal. From Buffalo the remainder of the journey was made by lake steamer to Ashtabula. The youthful Ahira received but a meager education in the pioneer schools in Ohio. While a boy he drove the oxen which hauled the logs used in building the first log school house in his home district. He was brought up to farm work, remaining at home until 1837, when he joined his brothers, Lemon and Clark, who had preceded him to McHenry County, Ill., and had located claims in Coral Township. The entire journey from Ashtabula County, O., was made on foot, except for an occasional ride in the wagon of some kind farmer or with some passing traveler. The youthful pedestrian carried with him a heavy valise containing his baggage, weighing some forty pounds, coming by way of Toledo, Ohio, and Niles, Mich., and reaching Chicago in March, 1837, the journey having occupied sixteen days. He was accompanied by Amos Mitchell, a carpenter, who had

previously made two trips west, and was acquainted with the country. The nights were usually spent in some log tavern or in the home of some friendly frontier settler.

After remaining a week in Chicago without being able to find employment, Mr. Thompson proceeded to McHenry County where his brothers had taken up claims in what is now Coral Township. As their claims were larger than they could hold under the regulations adopted by the frontier settlers, or could enter under the pre-emption laws enacted by Congress, Ahira took a part of their claims off their hands, built upon it a log cabin 7x9 feet, and then secured employment with a Mr. Lee who was building a saw-mill on the Kishwaukee River near Kingston. Later he went to Michigan City, and finally to Cheboygan, where he found employment in the pineries for some months, but returning in the following spring, put in a crop on his claim in Coral Township. Unable to find a market for his corn-crop in the following fall, even at the rate of ten cents per bushel, he abandoned his claim and going to Chicago, obtained work in a cooper-shop for a year. In 1839 he bought land in Seneca Township through R. K. Swift of Chicago, which he subsequently sold. For the next three years he worked in Chicago for a butcher and packer whom he had known in Ohio, when, returning to McHenry County in 1842, he bought the land upon which he had located his first claim on coming west in 1837, paying for it at the rate of \$6 per acre. Having spent the next two years in the carpentering business in Chicago, he returned to his farm in McHenry County, upon which he erected a frame house, hewing the timber for the frame-work with his own hands. This house is still standing on the old homestead.

On October 7, 1844, Mr. Thompson was married to Charlotte M. Morris, who was born in Cazenovia, N. Y., March 29, 1827, the daughter of Samuel R. and Sallie (Bowly) Morris. Then settling upon his farm, he proceeded to make further improvements and, by the erection of good farm buildings, converted it into a pleasant and well improved homestead of 208 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have had children born as follows: William Miron, Aug. 9, 1845; Esther Ann, Jan. 24, 1847; Charles Alburtes, Dec. 1, 1850; Mary Lovie, Oct. 29, 1857; Herbert Russel, Sept. 6, 1859.

Mr. Thompson has been an indefatigable worker, and has brought up his family to habits





*Mrs. N. Baldwin*



*Lucia M. Thompson*



of industry and thrift. In politics he was originally an old-line Whig, casting his first vote in 1840 for William Henry Harrison for President. Later he became one of the original members of the Republican party, voting for John C. Fremont and Abraham Lincoln. To these principles he has consistently adhered ever since. In 1845 he was Collector of Coral Township and, for twelve years, served as Deputy Sheriff of McHenry County.

In June, 1862, Mr. Thompson enlisted as a soldier, although he had then nearly reached the limit of military service prescribed by law. He immediately began recruiting to secure other enlistments and, on Sept. 4th, following, was mustered in at Rockford, Ill., as a private in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was soon after assigned to service in the Quartermaster's Department, but a few months later was detailed to the hospital service in the rear of Vicksburg, performing duty in the field hospital under Generals Powell and Greene. Among battles in which he took part during the Vicksburg campaign, were those of Raymond, Utica and Champion Hills. For four days and nights he was on duty during the assaults upon Vicksburg, and witnessed much of the horrible sufferings of the wounded during the day and assisted in burying the dead at night. It was while in this service that he was one of the stretcher-bearers to carry Col. William Avery off the field after he had been shot through the thigh. He was next detailed for duty at General Powell's headquarters, under a tree in the rear of Vicksburg, serving there until the end of the siege. After the surrender at Vicksburg, having been taken with typhoid fever, he was granted a furlough in August, 1863, remaining at home until December following, when he rejoined his regiment at Vicksburg, although still unfit for active duty. On March 1, 1864, he was detailed in charge of thirty men to procure wood for the regiment, and still later his discharge on account of disability was recommended by the Examining Surgeons. No action was taken in this, however, probably owing to the killing of his Colonel, Thomas W. Humphrey, in the Guntown disaster, when the discharge papers were lost. Continuing in the service, therefore, he took part in the Red River expedition and was present at the capture of Fort De Russy and the skirmishes about Alexandria. Although somewhat improved in general health during this expedition, he met with an accident

which disabled one of his arms. So, on returning to Vicksburg, he was ordered into convalescent camp at Memphis and, in October following, was granted a permanent discharge for disability. Returning to his home in Illinois, broken in health, he was laid up for three months, and has never entirely recovered. He resumed farming, but was obliged to hire two men to carry on his farm work.

In 1882 Mr. Thompson removed to Marengo, where he bought the property on which he now resides. Here his wife died on Oct. 18, 1885. She was a member of the Methodist church. On June 11, 1888, he was married to Mrs. Julia A. Baldwin, who was born in Steuben, Oneida County, N. Y., June 10, 1828, the daughter of William E. and Almira (Sibley) Meyers. Mrs. Thompson is a member of the Methodist church.

Mrs. Thompson's father, William E. Meyers, was the son of Reuben and Annie (Benton) Meyers, and the grandson of a soldier of the Revolutionary War. The Meyers family originated from the region of the River Rhine in Germany, four brothers of the name coming to America to fight in the Revolutionary War. Annie Benton was a descendant of the Allen family, of which Col. Ethan Allen was a member. Reuben Meyers was a pioneer of Oneida County, N. Y., where he lived on the same farm for a period of fifty-four years. He was married twice, his first wife being Annie Benton, by whom he had eight children: Miranda, William E., Egbert, Mariah, Heman, Harriet, Philinda and Isaac. His second wife was Lucy Adsit, who bore him six children: Annie, Reuben, John, Lucinda, Orange and Elizabeth—the last of whom died young. Reuben Meyers died aged seventy-eight years. His son, William E. Meyers, was born on a farm in Oneida County, N. Y., was married in Steuben, that State, to Almira (Sibley) Mills, who was the daughter of Benjamin and Dorothy (Smith) Sibley. Mrs. Reuben Meyers' first husband was Palmer Mills, by whom she had one son named Caleb P. Mills. The Sibleys were of the same family as Judge Sibley of Rochester, N. Y. The children of William Meyers were: Julia A., Sarah J. and William H. H. In 1852 he moved to McHenry County, Ill., and conducted a hotel in Union for three years, when he retired, dying at Franklin Grove at the age of nearly eighty-eight years. In politics he was first an old-line Whig, and later a Republican, and held the offices of Deputy Sheriff,



constable, collector and was census-taker for his town in New York. His son, William H. H., was a soldier of the Civil War.

Mrs. Thompson's first marriage was to William A. Baldwin, in Cayuga, N. Y. Mr. Baldwin was a merchant, moved to Illinois, and settled at Union, McHenry County, and bought eighty acres of land near there. Having sold out there, he removed to Franklin Grove, where he carried on the mercantile business for fifteen years. He next moved to Story County, Iowa, where he was the owner of two farms. He died at Franklin Grove, Ill., in September, 1885, at the age of sixty-five years. His children were: Melissa G. and Almira C. Mr. Baldwin's father was a soldier of the Revolution, and was one of the party which captured the British General Prescott in his bed, on July 20, 1777.

#### Henry T. THOMPSON.

Henry T. Thompson, of Marengo, McHenry County, is one of those men in whom one finds combined the attributes of the skilled horticulturist, the successful business man and the public-spirited citizen. On the paternal side Mr. Thompson is descended from sterling English stock, but by intermarriage, Scotch, Welsh, French and Swedish blood has been infused in his veins. His great-grandfather, James Thompson, was a sea-captain, who was born in England, July 12, 1746, and married a woman of Swedish birth named Jane—surname unknown. She was born March 11, 1752, and their marriage took place at Clerkimack, Aug. 29, 1768. Their children, with dates of birth, were: Jane, July 23, 1769; James, July 5, 1771 (died in infancy); James (2), Sept. 15, 1774; Thomas, March 25, 1776; Ann, June 15, 1779; Moses, April 26, 1782; Mary Ann, June 24, 1785; Sophia Finley, Aug. 19, 1786; Harriet, Oct. 18, 1787 (died in infancy); Harriet (2), Jan. 17, 1789; Elizabeth, Feb. 17, 1790; Benjamin, Dec. 29, 1793. James Thompson, the father of this family, died June 8, 1810, and his wife, March 1, 1795. Henry T. Thompson, subject of this sketch, was the descendant of Thomas Thompson, who was born in London, England, March 25, 1776, received a liberal education, became an artist and was a well-known writer on scientific subjects. He was married in Laubert Street church, London, Jan. 1, 1800, to Elizabeth Lamplo Fassett, who was of French parentage, and born Jan. 29,

1770. Thomas Thompson lived in London, where he kept an art-store, and some of his old steel engravings are preserved by his descendants. The name of the firm was Darling & Thompson, and a steel-engraving bearing their imprint, under date of July 1, 1794, is still in possession of Henry T. Thompson. Among the paintings of Thomas Thompson, still preserved, is an oil-portrait of his father, and also a scene on the Hudson River. The children of Thomas and Elizabeth Thompson, with respective dates of birth, were: Ann Jane, April 27, 1801; Thomas Washington, Nov. 9, 1802; James, Sept. 23, 1804; Henry, Feb. 28, 1807; Elizabeth, Nov. 28, 1808; Alfred, Jan. 27, 1814; Sarah Fassett, Aug. 19, 1815—all born in England. In 1816, Thomas Thompson, accompanied by his sons, Thomas and James, came to America, making the journey by sailing-vessel to New York, where his wife and the remainder of the family joined him a few months later. He first settled in Pennsylvania on the Susquehanna River, where he improved a farm on which he remained some years. Later he removed to Brooklyn, N. Y., where he resumed his profession as an artist, dying there Nov. 15, 1852. He was the first of his line to settle in America, and was a man of broad and liberal views on both political and religious subjects. He was a strong advocate of free government as opposed to monarchical institutions. An excellent oil-portrait of him is preserved by Mr. Thompson of Marengo.

Thomas Washington Thompson, next in line of descent of this family, was but fourteen years of age when he came with his father to America. He received a good common-school education and grew up on the farm in Susquehanna County, where he adopted the life of a farmer. June 15, 1826, he was married to Meroe Campbell, who was born at Lebanon, Madison County, N. Y., Sept. 13, 1804, the daughter of Charles Stewart and Sarah (Jones) Campbell. Her father was of Scotch blood, his ancestors having settled in the North of Ireland, whence they removed to America, while her mother was of English and Welsh descent, her family genealogy extending back a period of four hundred years, of which two hundred years had been spent in the United States. The line of descent before the family came to America, is traced to John Woodbridge, a follower of the celebrated Scotch reformer, John Wickliffe. The Woodbridges were English-Puritans, and were related to Gov. Winthrop of the old

Massachusetts Bay Colony. Mrs. Campbell was also related to Rev. Joseph Elliott of Guilford,———. After his marriage Thomas Washington Thompson settled on the farm which his father had occupied in Susquehanna County, Penn., but in 1836, removed to New York City, where he engaged in milk business. Two years later (1838) he made a second removal, this time to Green County, Wis., making the entire journey overland by wagon with horses. Here he settled on a tract of 200 acres of land, of which forty acres were timber and the remainder prairie, upon which he established a good home and spent the remainder of his days. He opened a country store on his farm in 1846, but died three years later—Sept. 27, 1849. He was a Unitarian in religious views and in politics a Democrat of those days; was held in high esteem as a representative citizen of his community, and held county offices. His children were: Ellen Maria, born June 5, 1827; Charles Frederick, born Dec. 2, 1828; Henry Thomas, born Aug. 3, 1830, and James Alfred, born Aug. 12, 1841. Mrs. Thompson died at the home of her son, Henry T. Thompson, Feb. 11, 1877.

Henry Thomas Thompson, having accompanied his parents at six years of age to New York, and to Wisconsin two years later, received a common-school education and spent three months in an academy at Monroe, Wis. He grew up on his father's farm, doing farm work in his boyhood, but early engaged in mercantile business for his father, and while thus employed made frequent trips to Milwaukee, hauling grain to that place and returning with goods. When he was nineteen years of age, his father died. Later he entered into partnership with his brother, Charles Frederick, for the prosecution of the mercantile business in which he had been engaged with his father, and this they carried on until 1853, when, having sold out his interest to his brother, Henry T. Thompson he turned his attention exclusively to managing the farm. On June 15, 1852, Mr. Thompson was married at Sylvester, Green County, Wis., to Caroline Smith Chamberlain, who was born June 25, 1831, in Erie County, N. Y., the daughter of John M. and Philinda (Smith) Chamberlain. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Thompson remained on the farm until 1857, when they removed to Monroe, Wis., where he engaged in the grain business. Here he remained two years, when (1859) he removed to Milwaukee and embarked in a gen-

eral commission business, which he continued until 1865. During the latter year he removed to Chicago, and there engaged in the same business, a few years later turning his attention solely to the wool trade, in which he had previously been an extensive dealer. He was a heavy sufferer by the great Chicago fire of Oct. 8-9, 1871, as shown by the following incident related in a history of that event:

"The writer, walking among the mournful ruins of the North Division, on the day after that quarter was destroyed, met a gentleman whom he accosted with the usual salutation: 'How did you come out?' The answer was, 'yesterday morning I had over there a building with \$30,000 worth of wool in it. I had a fine house well furnished for my home, and two others to help out my income. Today, I have nothing except what is on my back; my wife is the same—that is all.'

"Are you going to give up? we asked. 'No, sir,' he answered; and, a week later, we encountered the same friend, who was then on the track of a man to put up a building for him, and he kept right on with his business. Such was the pluck of the men of the West."

It will cause no surprise to those who know the personal character of the subject of this sketch, to be told that the individual referred to in the above extract was Henry T. Thompson. He not only resumed business, but greatly extended it. In 1873, he was a heavy loser by the Boston fire, but recovered from that disaster also. He not only conducted a successful business, but gained a wide reputation as a business man of enterprise and unswerving integrity. The firm of Henry T. Thompson & Co. is still doing business in Chicago, although Mr. Thompson retired from active participation in it in 1889. The concern, under the management of Mr. Thompson's son-in-law, H. T. Fry, who has associated with him Mr. L. G. Styles, still does a large wool commission business. In 1884, Mr. Thompson purchased 1,500 acres of land in Dawson County, Neb., which he stocked with cattle, and conducted an extensive business in that line for some years. In 1892 he purchased his present home farm of 200 acres in Coral Township, upon which he has made extensive improvements, underdraining the land, erecting houses for tenants and enlarging and remodeling the residence and supplying it with all modern conveniences. Mr. Thompson rents the bulk of his land, retaining five acres for horticultural purposes, to which he devotes his personal attention. It is safe to say that there is no other tract of equal size in McHenry County, or even in the



State of Illinois, under a higher state of cultivation, or where so many different varieties of fruits, flowers and shrubs may be found. From boyhood Mr. Thompson has felt a deep interest in horticulture, which he is now able to gratify to the fullest extent. Inheriting the taste of his artist grandfather, he has surrounded himself with beautiful flowers which please the eye and, with their rich colors, adorn the shaded vistas of the verdant, well-kept lawns. Here are to be found fruits of every variety capable of cultivation in the climate of Northern Illinois, all carried to the highest degree of perfection by the skill of the expert horticulturist. One would be well repaid for a visit to his grounds by the splendid display of fruits and flowers in their respective seasons, to be seen on those five acres. Mr. Thompson is a member of the Executive Board of the State Horticultural Society, President of the Horticultural Society of Northern Illinois, and also President of the McHenry County Farmers' Institute; served for three years as Superintendent of the Horticultural Department of the McHenry County Fair Association, being one of the Board of Managers of said Association, and has also been a member of the Farmers' Picnic Association and its first President. For several years he was the chief exhibitor of fine fruits at the McHenry County Fairs, and his displays always attracted a great deal of attention. In politics, Mr. Thompson is a Republican and, during the Civil War, he took an active interest in the Union cause, and was one of the founders of the Soldiers' Home at Milwaukee, established for the purpose of accommodating soldiers going to or returning home from the war, and also assisted in raising the means to make it a permanent institution, as it afterwards passed into the control of the General Government. Being prevented by his obligations to his family and business affairs from enlisting in person, he had, at one time, three substitutes in the service, besides contributing liberally to fill the quota of Milwaukee, and to the support of the needy families of soldiers in the field. During the war period he was also a member of the "Union League of America," a patriotic order which had its origin in the efforts to defeat the schemes of the "Knights of the Golden Circle" and other organizations designed to aid the cause of the rebellion. In Chicago, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson were members of and liberal supporters of the Unity church. They have

one child, Julia, born March 7, 1853, who married Henry T. Fry, now at the head of the wool commission firm of H. T. Thompson & Co., 201 to 209 Michigan Street, Chicago.

#### ASAHEL C. THOMPSON.

Asahel Chamberlain Thompson, Woodstock, Ill., one of the early settlers in McHenry County, of which he has been a resident nearly seventy years, is of an old colonial and Puritan family of English extraction, of which branches were located at an early day in Connecticut and Massachusetts. His grandfather, Seth Thompson, believed to have been born in Connecticut in 1760, was a farmer and soldier in the Revolutionary War, having enlisted at eighteen years of age, and served as a private five years. He was the oldest of the family, his next older brother serving four years. The other children of the family were: Ignatius, Caleb and Dexter. Ignatius was a teacher, prepared for the ministry but became an editor and settled in New Jersey; also wrote a "History of the Thompson Family in America," which was published in pamphlet form about 1845. Seth (the elder brother) married Mary Waterman and settled in New Hampshire, but a few years later moved to Orange County, Vt., where he cleared a farm in the woods. He next moved to Ashtabula County (Western Reserve), Ohio, about 1812-15, opened a farm and, in his later years, made his home with his son Seth, dying in 1828 at sixty-eight years of age. His children were: Seth, Sylvia, Thomas, Apollos, Polly, Robert, Zebediah, Sallie, Deborah, George and Hannah.

Apollos Thompson of this family, and the father of our subject, was born in New Hampshire in 1790, received the education customary in that day, became a farmer, and, at the age of twenty-two years, was married to Lucinda Dexter, in Stafford, Orange County, Vt. Miss Dexter, having been left an orphan in childhood, was adopted by Col. Asahel Chamberlain, a prominent citizen and regarded, in his day, as one of the wealthiest men of the town. His wealth—estimated at about \$3,000—consisted in a large part of several farms, of which he gave one of 100 acres to his adopted daughter. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson settled on this farm, which he still further improved, but sold in 1821, when he removed to Ashtabula County, Ohio, whither his father had preceded him several years before.



For several years he rented land in Conneaut Township, but in 1832 bought 100 acres of wild, heavily-timbered land, which he cleared and improved, making for himself and family a good home. In August, 1842, he came to Illinois with his son Asahel and selected a location in McHenry Township, McHenry County, where they purchased 320 acres, upon which he remained to build a house while his son returned to Ohio for the family. A pathetic incident is told of their removal. While passing through Lake County on their way from Chicago to McHenry County, Abigail Thompson (the oldest daughter—afterwards Mrs. Herd), was induced to stop to do some sewing for a family named Gridley. While there she was taken sick and her mother returned from McHenry County to care for her. The daughter recovered, but Mrs. Thompson was soon taken sick, dying two weeks later. She was a Baptist and remembered as a woman of sterling virtues. Mr. Thompson settled upon the land which he and his son had selected, but sold his share of it a few years later, and purchased 170 acres near McHenry, which he improved and made into a comfortable home. By this time Mr. Thompson was advanced in years, and he finally went to reside with his daughter, Mrs. Abigail Herd, in Dorr Township, where he spent the latter part of his life, dying in March, 1861, aged seventy-one years. He was a Free-Will Baptist and a deacon in the church for some twenty years; also served in a local office in Ohio. During the War of 1812 he was called out as a member of the Vermont militia, but saw no active service. His children were: Abigail, Erastus G., Asahel C., Lucia, Jeannette (died aged two years), Mark and Lucinda.

Asahel Chamberlain Thompson, whose name heads this article, was born at Stafford, Vt., Feb. 9, 1820, the son of Apollos and Lucinda (Dexter) Thompson, and named for his mother's foster-father, Col. Asahel Chamberlain. In 1821 he was brought by his parents to Ashtabula County, Ohio, the journey of 600 miles being made in a two-horse sleigh, and occupying three weeks. Here young Asahel grew up on a farm, attended a district school and later a term in a select school; then taught three terms in a Baptist church on South Ridge in Conneaut Township, after which he spent half a term in an academy at Farmington, Trumbull County. The winter of 1841-42 he spent in teaching again in Conneaut

Township, working on his father's farm during the summer and, in August following, he accompanied his father to McHenry County, Ill., making the trip with a two-horse team in two weeks. Having purchased a tract of 320 acres, his father remained to build a frame house 16x24 feet, while Asahel, returning to their Ohio home a month later, sent the family by steamer to Chicago in the fall, he remaining until the following spring. On April 3, 1843, he started by team to McHenry County, where he assisted his father to clear their land and established his permanent home, receiving 120 acres as his share of the land. On January 21, 1847, he was married, in Greenwood Township, to Mary Jane Nealley, the daughter of Joseph and Susan (Chamberlain) Nealley, born at Milton, Mass., March 25, 1829.

Matthew Nealley, the grandfather of Mrs. Thompson, was a large farmer in Nottingham, N. H., who married Miss Mary True. Their children were: Joseph, Bowdoin, Abraham, Ezra, Samuel and Mary. Matthew spent his active days in New Hampshire, but late in life came to McHenry County, Ill., and died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Mary James. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church and each lived to the age of eighty-two years. His son, Joseph (the father of Mrs. Thompson), was born in Nottingham, N. H., Oct. 2, 1803, received a common-school education, became a farmer and, on Feb. 27, 1828, was married to Susan Chamberlain of Roxbury (now part of Boston), Mass. His wife was born Feb. 24, 1811, the daughter of Moses and Lucy (Chamberlain) Chamberlain, an old New England family of Puritan stock. Moses Chamberlain was the owner of a large farm embraced within the present limits of the city of Boston, where he died Sept. 5, 1825, his wife dying Dec. 27, 1830. Their children were: Sarah, Susan, Hannah, John and Moses. Joseph settled at Milton, ten miles from Boston, and learned the trade of a shoemaker. In 1837, accompanied by his brother Ezra, he came to Illinois. The latter remained in Chicago, while Joseph, after an extended tour through the State, finally selected a location in Greenwood Township. The season was a wet one, the sloughs were full of water and Mr. Nealley said this was the only dry land he found. He bought a claim, entered 240 acres of land placed upon the market, and then returned to Massachusetts for his family, bringing them out in June, 1838. They made the

journey from Boston to Stonington, Conn., by railroad, then by steamer on Long Island Sound to New York, up the Hudson to Albany, by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence round the lakes to Chicago and from Chicago to McHenry County by private conveyance, for which they paid \$25. The place looked so desolate that Mrs. Nealley and the children began to cry, saying they could not stay there, and the teamster offered to take them back to Chicago for nothing. They found friends, however, in a family by the name of Stone, and decided to remain. Mr. Nealley built a log-house that summer, his family became contented, he prospered as a farmer and in a few years had a most comfortable home. He erected good farm buildings and in 1844 set out hard maple trees, which he brought from Dorr Township. This grove is still in a flourishing condition and is one of the most noteworthy and picturesque features of its kind in the township. Mr. and Mrs. Nealley had two children, named Mary E. and Susan E. Mr. Nealley was a prominent and reputable citizen in his day, and served as one of the early Treasurers of Greenwood Township. He died March 23, 1862. Mrs. Nealley was a member of the Baptist church, though of a Unitarian family. She lived to the age of seventy-three years, dying at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Susan E. Garrison, Oct. 21, 1883.

After his marriage Mr. Asahel Thompson settled on the land which he had selected on his first visit with his father to McHenry Township in 1842, remaining there until 1852, when he sold his farm and removed to his present location in Greenwood Township, having bought the farm of 240 acres which had belonged to his father-in-law, Joseph Nealley. In 1883 he built upon this a substantial and commodious two-story residence, and while by the sale of a portion of his property he has reduced his holdings to 180 acres, he is still the owner of the finest farm and one of the most attractive homes in Greenwood Township. In 1864 he also became interested in a cheese factory, which he erected in partnership with Mr. George Abbott. While a resident of McHenry Township he served as Justice of the Peace from 1849 to 1852, and after his removal to Greenwood Township, was elected to fill a vacancy and still later for a full term of four years. He then filled the office of Township Assessor two years and Township Supervisor one term (1859-60). Still later he was elected

Justice of the Peace for seven consecutive terms (28 years), making, with his previous service in McHenry Township, thirty-five years in this office. He also filled the office of Township Treasurer for a number of years, and, at an early day, served as Trustee of Schools. As Justice of the Peace he tried many important cases, and proved himself a man of the highest probity and a firm friend of justice. Both 'Squire Thompson and his wife were early members of the Free-Will Baptist church, and assisted to build the first church edifice of that denomination in McHenry. Their children are Herbert N., Edwin H., Merritt W., Frank G., George E., Asahel E. and Mary L. In politics 'Squire Thompson was an old-line Whig, but became an original Republican and zealous advocate of freedom for the slave. Mr. Thompson died July 22, 1901.

#### STANTON M. THOMAS.

Stanton Malina Thomas, pioneer and respected citizen of Nunda, McHenry County, is of Welsh ancestry, members of the American branch of the family having come to New England and their descendants settled at Middlebury, Vt., at an early day. Noah Thomas, the great-grandfather of Stanton M., was a native of New England, and his son, also named Noah, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and became a farmer at Middlebury. The latter had a brother named Abiah who was a pioneer at Louisville, Ky., and a large landholder there, and was the father of General George H. Thomas of Civil War Fame. Noah (2), who was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, lived to be over ninety-nine years of age and his wife to 106 years. When the latter was 100 years old she did a full day's work at the spinning wheel and walked three miles to attend a meeting. During her life she never rode in a vehicle. Noah Thompson was a Universalist in religion. As he died about 1830 he is well remembered by his grandson Stanton M., to whom he related many reminiscences of the early American wars.

Abiah Thomas, son of Noah (2) and father of Stanton M., was born in Middlebury, Vt., about 1761, became a farmer and married in his native town Mary Stanton, who was born in Middlebury, the daughter of Phineas Stanton, of an old New England family, and of the same stock as Edwin M. Stanton, who was



Secretary of War under President Lincoln. Phineas Stanton was a native of Middlebury, became a soldier of the War of 1812, serving on Lake Erie, and was at the battle of Lundy's Lane in Canada. Prior to the War of 1812, he moved to Genesee County, N. Y., where he improved a farm of 500 acres. He was an extensive sheep-grower, and was one of the early importers of Spanish Merino and Saxony sheep. He was a prominent man in his locality and lived to be about seventy-five years old. His children were: Elias, Phineas, George, Addie, Percis, Polly and Mary. Abiah Thomas also moved to Genesee County, N. Y., before the War of 1812, cleared up a large farm on the Tonawanda Flats, and there spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1837, aged about seventy-five years. He was a member of the Universalist church and had children named: Harriet, Emory, Mary, Nelson, Cordelia, Stanton M. (subject of this sketch), Rosette and Fayette—all born at Alexander, Genesee County, N. Y., except Harriet and Emily, who were born at Skeneateles Lake, where Mr. Thomas lived three years before settling at Alexander.

Stanton Malina Thomas, of this family, was born at Alexander, N. Y., April 25, 1816, and his father being a pioneer settler in a wilderness region, received only a limited education. He grew up a farmer, and, in 1834, when about eighteen years old, came with his brother Nelson and family—the latter consisting of his wife and one child—to Illinois, making the journey to Buffalo by wagon, and thence by sailing-vessel to Chicago, where they arrived May 17, 1834. Nelson brought with him a pair of horses, a wagon and household goods with some money, and, after landing at the foot of Michigan Avenue near old Fort Dearborn, the brothers hitched their team to the wagon, loaded up their goods and left the same day for Naperville, then a small hamlet in what is now Kane County. Here Nelson Thomas bought eighty acres of land which now constitutes part of the city of Naperville. The brothers spent their first winter here, but in June, 1835, removed to what is now McHenry County, locating in Algonquin Township, where Cary Station now stands. They took with them a team of six yoke of cattle, hauling a load of lumber which was used for floors, roof and doors for a log house, which they erected for

their new home. The Indians were numerous in this locality at that time, but peaceful and friendly. The brothers entered land here—Stanton M. taking up 160 acres—for which they paid \$1.25 an acre at the Government Land Office in Chicago. Thomas M. built a log house on his land and, on Jan. 1, 1837, was married in Algonquin Township, to Almira French, who was born in New York State, Aug. 17, 1817, the daughter of Joshua French. Her father, who was of Scotch descent, was a native of Vermont, but settled at an early day in New York, where he began life as a farmer. In 1839 he came with his family to Algonquin Township, McHenry County, whither his daughter Almira, coming with the family of Henry Brink, had preceded him by two years. Mr. French bought a small farm here upon which he lived a few years, when he removed to Chicago, and there died at the home of his son Samuel, at the age of eighty-two years. His other children were: Harriet, Mercy, Margaret, Hannah, Almira, Abbie, Phoebe and Arvilla Ann. Mr. French was a Universalist in religious belief and a man of independent character.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stanton M. Thomas settled on the farm which he had opened up in Algonquin Township, but four years later sold out and purchased a hotel in Algonquin village, which he managed a few years. About 1841 he bought from his brother Nelson eighty acres of land in the old neighborhood, to which he made additions until he became the owner of 320 acres. In 1870 he traded his farm lands for property in Chicago, and removing to that city, resided there five years. Then, having been appointed manager of the State farm connected with the Hospital for the Insane at Elgin, he remained in connection with that institution three years. In 1890 he removed to Nunda, where he has since lived a retired life. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have had six children, of whom three died in childhood. Those still living are: Adelbert A., Mary and Lem. In politics Mr. Thomas is a staunch Republican, and in early days he filled various local offices, including Commissioner of Highways, Constable, Collector of Taxes, and Deputy Sheriff. Venerable in years and one of the oldest surviving pioneers of McHenry County, he is spending the evening of



his days in deserved comfort in the community in which he has resided nearly seventy years. (Since this sketch was written Mr. Thomas has passed away at a venerable age.)

#### ADELBERT A. THOMAS.

Adelbert A. Thomas, a leading business man of Nunda, McHenry County, and a patriot soldier of the Civil War, was born at Cary Station, Algonquin Township, Sept. 14, 1843, the son of Stanton M. and Almira (French) Thomas. He received a common-school education in the district school of his native village, and his youth was spent on the farm. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company I, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Captain James Nish, (see sketch of Capt. Nish in this volume), and having served the full term of his enlistment, was honorably discharged at Memphis, Tenn., August 3, 1865. He took part with his company in all its battles, and joining Grant's army at Jackson, Tenn., took part in the campaign in Central Mississippi. Having been attacked with typhoid fever at Waterford, Miss., he was first placed in the field hospital, but afterwards transferred to a hospital at Holly Springs. Here he was captured with twenty-four other invalid soldiers by the rebel commander Van Dorn, and held a prisoner twelve hours, Van Dorn then being obliged to retreat. While held as a prisoner in hospital, he and his comrades were protected from molestation by the rebels through the device of a hospital steward, who had marked on the door of their room the word "Small-pox." His father arrived in Holly Springs the evening before the place was captured by Van Dorn, and found his son in a critical condition, having been given up to die. Mr. Thomas was shortly afterwards removed in a stock car to Jackson, Tenn. His father accompanied him on the journey and procured some straw with which he made beds for the soldiers, and in this manner saved many of their lives. Mr. Thomas remained in the hospital at Jackson nearly two months, but at the end of the first month began to make progress towards recovery and his father returned home. One month later he rejoined his regiment at Lake Providence, La., and served during the remainder of the Mississippi campaign. He was de-

tailed as a teamster and was the first to transport a load of ammunition out to the works at Vicksburg, which was done under a severe fire. He then went with his regiment to Natchez, and here was assigned to Company B, which was mounted as cavalry and detailed on a foraging expedition. Mr. Thomas was with his regiment at Vicksburg, and with Banks in his Red River expedition, during which he took part in many skirmishes, his regiment serving as the rear-guard on the return to Vicksburg. Later he was detailed for a time to the Third United States Colored Cavalry as Commissary Sergeant. They were in several skirmishes and captured a stockade on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. Here fifteen Union soldiers who had been serving in the rebel army as prisoners, were recaptured after they had made a charge to escape from their captors. They were in a condition of complete destitution. In the closing months of his service he was on duty at Memphis.

Returning home from the war, Mr. Thomas resumed work at Cary and on July 4, 1868, was married, at Genoa Junction, Wis., to Frances A. Hawkins, born in Painesville, Ohio, Dec. 15, 1848, the daughter of Charles W. and Maria (Heaton) Hawkins. Charles W. Hawkins was born August 8, 1825, in Pennsylvania, the son of Whipple and Mary (Brown) Hawkins. Whipple Hawkins, who was a blacksmith and soldier of the War of 1812, settled in Alleghany County, Penn., where he died aged about seventy-five years. Charles W. was also a blacksmith and lived at Auburn, N. Y., until 1845, when he came to Illinois and settled on a farm near Aurora. The cholera was prevalent at this time, and some half dozen victims were buried from the boat in which Mr. Hawkins came west. He soon returned to New York and lived at Auburn until 1858, when he again removed to Illinois and settled on a farm at Cary, where he remained until 1868, when he removed to Marengo and, later, to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he lived fourteen years. Mr. Hawkins enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War for one year and served as a blacksmith in an Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment. His children are: Mary, Frances A., Henry (who died aged seven years), Clare, William (died in infancy) and Grace. In politics Mr. Hawkins is a Republican.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert Thomas settled at Cary and later removed to Aurora, Ill., where he was a foreman in the shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, for nine months. Then, returning to Cary, he managed a farm there for two years but afterwards removed to Dubuque, Iowa, where he engaged as a brakeman on a railroad. After nine months service there, he was tendered a position as fireman for the same road, and one year later was promoted to engineer, continuing in this position four years. In 1877 he came to Chicago where he engaged in the milk business for two years, and for eleven years thereafter was in the employ of the Eastern Illinois Railroad as engineer, running from Chicago to Danville and Terre Haute. In 1892 Mr. Thomas came to Nunda and engaged in the livery business, and was also landlord of the Richmond House nine months, conducting the livery at the same time. Politically, he is a Republican and served as a member of the Town Council for six years; fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are the parents of three children: Jeannette, Marion G., and Adelbert A., Jr.

#### JOB TOLES.

The subject of this biography is a very interesting pioneer citizen of Greenwood Township. He traces his descent from a sterling English family who were among the early settlers of Connecticut, and he was proprietor and operator of the village mill at Greenwood for more than fifty years.

Ebenezer Toles, the grandfather, moved to New York State and settled in Albany County, within fourteen miles of the capital city. He cleared up a farm from the wilderness and served as a patriot soldier in the Revolutionary War. Of his children, Eben, Henry, Edward A., Nathaniel and Zenas are remembered. He died on his farm in New York, and during the last years of his life lived with his daughter, Mrs. Job Chase.

Edward A. Toles, father of Job Toles, was born near Albany, N. Y., about 1789, and reared on a farm. He married Mary Chase, born in New York State about 1791, and afterwards settled on a part of his father's farm, on which he made extensive improvements

He served as a soldier in the War of 1812. His children were: Edward S., Job, Electa, Nancy, Harriet, Mary Ann and Augusta. He lived on his farm until all of his children had reached maturity and then came to English Prairie, McHenry County, and lived with his son Edward until the time of his death at the age of sixty-seven years. He had been, throughout his life, a member of the Methodist church, and took an active part in church affairs, serving as class-leader for many years.

Job Toles was born May 3, 1815, in Albany County, N. Y., and received a common-school education. He became a farmer and moved to Illinois in 1836, arriving at English Prairie, September 20. He came via the Erie Canal and the great lakes to Chicago, then went west and south to Vicksburg, working his way on the Mississippi River, and after working three months in Vicksburg, returned to Chicago and afterwards moved to English Prairie, where he entered 160 acres of good prairie land. Mr. Toles made extensive improvements on his farm and built a frame house, where he lived for a few years and then bought a saw-mill at Spring Grove on the Nippersink. He operated the Spring Grove mill for a short time and then, in company with Lewis Boone, built a mill on the Nippersink, known as the "Boone Mill," one and a half miles from Greenwood. Two years later Mr. Toles sold his interest to Mr. Boone, and then came to Greenwood and bought a saw-mill in company with William Marvin. This partnership continued but a short time, when Mr. Toles bought Mr. Marvin's interest, re-built the mill, and furnished it with two runs of stone—one for feed and the other for flour. It was a first-class mill for those days, and received a patronage that over-taxed its capacity, customers coming from a distance of over twenty miles. Many times the mill would be three days behind in grinding, and customers were often compelled to remain over night and sometimes longer, waiting for their grist of flour and feed. The Toles mill at Greenwood was the only flour-mill in the county, except the Brown Mill and one located at McHenry. These were the early mills that did the grinding for the county. Mr. Toles also built a general store in Greenwood and the building is still standing, occupied by John Barber as a dwelling house. It is now



the oldest house standing in Greenwood. When Mr. Toles first came to Greenwood, there was but one house in the village—a frame building occupied as a dwelling by Mr. Marvin, who afterwards became Mr. Toles' partner, Mr. Toles operated his grist and flour mill for over fifty years, and he is known for miles around as a pioneer miller and business man of Greenwood. He was married in Greenwood Township, March 15, 1852, to Samantha Freeman, the ceremony being performed by Orestes Garrison, a Justice of the Peace. Miss Freeman was born at Potsdam, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., Sept. 13, 1833, daughter of Ashley and Sarah (Dewey) Freeman.

Ashley Freeman, father of Mrs. Toles, was born near Montpelier, Vt., April 3, about 1788, son of Ezra and Sarah Freeman. Ezra Freeman was a farmer and served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He settled in St. Lawrence County, and cleared up a good farm. His children were: Ashley, Lyman, Sally and Wilson. Mr. Freeman was a Universalist in religious belief and a member of the old New York State militia. He lived to be eighty-eight years of age, and died in St. Lawrence County, N. Y.

Ashley Freeman was a farmer and cleared up a large farm in St. Lawrence County, having located there with his parents when a boy. He married in Potsdam, Sarah Dewey, born in Potsdam, Aug. 14, 1802, the second white child born in the town and the daughter of Elias Dewey, a native of Vermont. Mrs. Freeman died in New York State, and Mr. Freeman afterwards lived at the homestead with his children until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman were the parents of Eliza, Samantha, Sabra, Henry and Hattie. Mr. Freeman had been previously married to a Miss Betsy Bates, and by this marriage there were two children, Olive and Martha, both of whom married in New York State, but Martha and her family came to Illinois with Mr. Freeman. The trip was made via the lakes to Waukegan and by wagon to Greenwood Township. Mr. Freeman bought 120 acres of land in Greenwood Township, which he disposed of later and bought another farm in the same township, upon which he lived until his death about seven years after his settlement. He was sixty-seven years of age and died Dec. 13, 1855. In politics he was an old line Whig.

Mr. Job Toles continued to reside in Greenwood, operating his mill and conducting a general store. He purchased land at several different times until he owned 500 acres, but recently has sold much of his landed property, although he still retains 300 acres. The mill and water-power was disposed of about eight years ago. In politics Mr. Toles was an old line Whig, but advocated the principles of the Republican party when it was first organized, and voted for John C. Fremont and later for Abraham Lincoln. In religious belief both Mr. and Mrs. Toles are members of the Methodist church, and have contributed liberally in aiding to build different churches. Mr. Toles was a very active and industrious man in his younger days, and has owned four grist-mills and several different water-powers. His children were: Adelia, who died at the age of three years; Edward A.; Charles H.; and Earl. Mr. Toles began to suffer about ten years with an affliction of the eyes which has resulted in total blindness. He retained the rugged constitution, with which he had always been favored throughout his long life, until April, 1902, when he was prostrated by a stroke of paralysis. It should be said to his credit that he has always lived a very temperate life, having never been addicted to the use of liquor or tobacco.

Mrs. Toles is an excellent example of the pioneer mothers of McHenry County, and one who is greatly beloved by all her friends and associates.

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#### MELVIN G. TRIPP.

Melvin G. Tripp, one of the leading photographers of his county, was born in Woodstock, Ill., August 27, 1864, the son of Daniel and Sarah E. (Burbank) Tripp. The Tripp family is of English descent and emigrated to New York in the colonial period. Daniel Tripp, father of Melvin G., and a highly respected representative citizen of Woodstock, is the son of Jonathan and Euphemia (Van Dyke) Tripp. The Van Dykes were of Holland-Dutch ancestry.

Jonathan Tripp was the son of Israel and Sarah Tripp, and settled after marriage in Madison County, N. Y., where he lived until he reared his family. When he became too old and feeble to manage his farm, he moved to De Ruyter village, where he died, aged eighty-six years. His wife, Euphemia Van Dyke, was



the daughter of Mynder Van Dyke, a soldier in the War of 1812.

Daniel Tripp was born Nov. 16, 1827, in Lincklaen, Chenango County, N. Y., and received the usual common-school education. He was reared a farmer and learned the harness-maker's trade at De Ruyter, N. Y., beginning when he was nineteen years of age. He worked at his trade in New York State and came to Illinois in 1852, making a short visit at Woodstock, and then went to Rockford, where he found employment at his trade, later following the same occupation in Belvidere, Pecatonica and Rock Island. In 1857 he married in Woodstock, Dec. 24, 1857, Sarah E. Burbank, born in Haverhill, N. H., April 28, 1835, daughter of Elijah and Sarah (Hutchins) Burbank.

Elijah Burbank was born at Bath, N. H., in 1805, about 1843 came with his family to Illinois and settled on land near Du Quoin, in the southern part of the State, but about 1847 moved to McHenry County, and bought land in Dorr Township. He finally located at Woodstock about 1853, where he worked at his trade as a stone-mason. He lived in Woodstock until his death, in February, 1885, aged nearly eighty-five years. He was a member of the Presbyterian church; in politics an old line Whig, but became a Republican on the organization of that party. He and his wife were the parents of Abbie, Sarah, Albert, Gardner, Emma, Ella, and several children who died in childhood.

Daniel Tripp moved to Southern Illinois and settled at Tamaroa for a short time. In 1865 he moved to where Ludlow is now located in Perry County, remaining there one year, when he returned to Woodstock, where he has since been engaged in business, except one year (1887) spent in Texas. Fraternally Mr. Tripp is an Unaffiliated Mason and a member of the Knights Templar of Woodstock. Politically he is one of the original Republicans of McHenry County and voted for Abraham Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Tripp are the parents of Edwin, who died in infancy, and Melvin G.

Melvin G. Tripp was educated in the public schools of Woodstock, and at sixteen years of age, began learning the photographer's business with his uncle, G. A. Burbank, who then

owned the gallery now occupied by Mr. Tripp. Having spent four years with his uncle, he then went to Oconomowoc, Wis., where he worked at his trade for one year, when he went to Texas, and was employed in the same manner at Kaufman, Decatur and Sherman. Having returned North in April, 1890, he worked in Wisconsin and Iowa for some time. His uncle, Mr. G. A. Burbank, died in 1891, and Mr. Tripp then bought his present gallery. His travels and wide experience, together with his natural skill as an artist, have made him an expert in his line of work, and he is now one of the leading photographers in McHenry County. Mr. Tripp is a member of the Presbyterian church of Woodstock, and a man of excellent character. He has devoted his life to his profession, in which he has gained a high standing by his untiring industry and artistic ability.

#### CHARLES F. THORNE.

Charles F. Thorne, prominent merchant and, for many years, only exclusive dealer in clothing and gentlemen's furnishing goods in Woodstock, Ill., was born in Tunbridge, Vt., April 19, 1852, the son of Frank and Hannah (Mudgett) Thorne. Mr. Thorne is descended from colonial English Puritan ancestry, the earlier members of the family having located in Connecticut at an early day.

Samuel Thorne, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a soldier in the War of 1812 and an officer of his company. For his services as a soldier he received from the Government a bounty-land warrant, which he located on a tract of land in Illinois. He was a farmer and lived in Tunbridge, Orange County, Vt., where he had a good home and owned a farm on White River. He was a man of independent views, and in religious belief a Universalist. As a citizen he was prominent in the community and served as Selectman of his town. His death occurred on his farm in Vermont at the age of about seventy-three years, leaving three children named Frank, Mariah and Abbie.

Frank Thorne, the oldest of his family and father of Charles F. Thorne, in his boyhood received the usual New England common-school education, after which he learned the carpenter's trade. He remained on the home farm until after the death of his father, when he

removed to Worcester, Mass., where he followed his occupation as a carpenter. He married Hannah Mudgett, a native of Tunbridge, who bore him one son, Charles F., but died at the age of twenty years. She was a daughter of Ira Mudgett, who was of Scottish descent and of an old Vermont family. Her father was a substantial farmer and reliable citizen, and a prominent member of the Methodist church, in which he was a class-leader. His children were: Charles, John, Ira, Mary, Maria and Abbie. He died at the age of seventy years. After the death of his first wife—which occurred three weeks after the birth of her son, Charles F.—Mr. Frank Thorne married as his second wife, Lentha Smith, and they had three children named: Carrie, Frederick, and Pearl. Mr. Frank Thorne finally died at Worcester, Mass., aged sixty-five years.

Charles F. Thorne spent his childhood at the home of his grandfather Mudgett, until he was about six years old, when his father, having married a second time, he went to live with the latter on the old Thorne farm. Here he received a common-school education and early began work on the farm, learning to drive a team of oxen while still a mere boy. He soon began work for himself as an employe of Judge Steel, of Sharon, Vt., where he remained until the death of his employer. He then became the proprietor of a carriage-shop, which he conducted successfully for six years, although without previous experience in the business.

On September 22, 1872, Mr. Thorne was married, at Sharon, Vt., to Flora A. Hunt, who was born at Sharon, Sept. 11, 1854, the daughter of Phelps and Caroline B. (Hitchcock) Hunt. In 1883 Mr. Thorne removed with his family to Woodstock, McHenry County, Ill., where he soon after engaged in the gentlemen's clothing and furnishing business, in addition to other branches, carrying a stock of boots and shoes. Here he soon built up a large trade and, for some years, was the only merchant in Woodstock engaged exclusively in this line of business. Mr. and Mrs. Thorne have been the parents of the following named children: Carrie M., born April 13, 1875, died April 30, 1891; William S., born Nov. 10, 1879, and is a young man now employed in his father's store, and Gladys V., born June 22, 1892, at present a pupil in the Woodstock schools. Mr. Thorne

is a reliable citizen, of genial temperament and straightforward integrity, and, as a business man, stands high in the estimation of the mercantile world.

Phelps Hunt, the father of Mrs. Charles F. Thorne, was born at Coventry, Conn., the son of Ebenezer Hunt and a grandson of Dr. Pomeroy Hunt. Dr. Pomeroy Hunt, when a young man, accompanied an exploring party into the wilds of Vermont, and, in some manner becoming separated from his companions, was obliged to spend the winter alone in the forest, according to tradition, being the first white man to pass a winter in this region. The following spring he was rescued by a searching party, and, when found, was pounding corn for samp. He returned to Connecticut and practiced his profession.

Ebenezer Hunt, grandfather of Mrs. Thorne, was an early settler of Hartford, Vt., where he cleared up a farm. He died at Hartford.

Phelps Hunt was a boy when his father settled at Hartford, Vt. He married at Hartford, Sarah Dexter, and they settled in the same neighborhood. His wife died shortly after marriage, and he removed to Sharon, Vt., where he married for his second wife a widow lady, Caroline (Hitchcock) Perkins, the daughter of Henry and Polly Hitchcock. They settled on the old Hitchcock farm at Sharon, Vt., upon which the Hitchcocks were the first settlers. Here his second wife died, and Mr. Hunt afterwards purchased property at Hartland, Vt., and lived retired, deriving his income from rented property. Mr. Hunt was a prosperous man and died at Hartland, Vt., aged about seventy-one years. He was a Congregationalist in religious belief; was Overseer of the Poor, and a member of the Board of Selectmen, besides holding several other offices. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt were the parents of one child, Flora A. (now Mrs. Thorne). Mrs. Thorne was an only child, as were her mother, her grandmother and great-grandmother—a coincidence holding good for four consecutive generations.

#### BARNEY TERWILLIGER.

Barney Terwilliger, reliable citizen of Dorr Township, McHenry County, and soldier of the Civil War, is descended from Holland-Dutch ancestry, his paternal grandfather, also named Barney Terwilliger, being the father of Samuel Terwilliger, who became a pioneer set-



tlar of Nunda Township, coming to this locality about the same time as the Walkups and the Dufields. The grandfather, Barney Terwilliger, was a farmer of Chenango County, N. Y., where he married his wife, Dorothy, who was of Scotch descent, and they had children named Harmon B., Samuel, Solomon, John and Barney. The father was a farmer by occupation, a Presbyterian in religious belief, and died on his farm in Chenango County at the advanced age of about ninety years.

Harmon B., of this family and father of Barney (2), received a common-school education, became a farmer and married, in Chenango County, Margaret (Terwilliger) Terwilliger, who was of the same general stock as her husband, but not a ear relative. He firsts settled on the paternal homestead, but later removed to Broome County, N. Y., where he died at the age of eighty-eight years. His children were: Helen, Gertrude Ann, Abraham, Cymrenus, William, Cyrena, Caroline, Barney and Elizabeth. His first wife having died, Mr. Terwilliger married as his second wife Mrs. Caroline Boughton (nee Piersall), and their children were: Floyd, Emory and Idell. Mr. and Mrs. Terwilliger were members of the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Terwilliger served as a soldier in the War of 1812.

Barney Terwilliger, subject of this sketch, was born in Chenango County, N. Y., Dec. 27, 1833, received an ordinary common-school education and has pursued the occupation of a farmer during the greater part of his life. When about twelve to fourteen years of age he began work in a saw-mill in Broome County, N. Y., remaining most of the time until Oct. 16, 1861, when he enlisted as a soldier in the Eighty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry, in which he served three years, being honorably discharged at Bermuda Hundred, Va., Oct. 15, 1864. Among the engagements in which he participated were the battle of Roanoke Island, Camden, South Mountain, Antietam, Cold Harbor and Petersburg, besides many skirmishes. He was present at the blowing up of the Fort at Petersburg, Va., and also the affair at Fort Harrison. He was not wounded or a prisoner during his term of service, but was struck by the fragment of a shrapnel shell which penetrated his canteen and his tin-cup, but stopped after striking him sharply on the hip.

After the war, Mr. Terwilliger returned to Chenango County, N. Y., and there resumed work in a saw-mill, but in 1868 removed to Mc-

Henry County, Ill., where he entered upon life as a farmer. On Dec. 21, 1875, he was married at the residence of George Eckert, in Woodstock, to Sarah Eugenia Green, who was born in Dorr Township, April 11, 1850, the daughter of Robert and Amy Green. Mr. and Mrs. Terwilliger have had one son, Floyd Green, who was born June 25, 1881, received his education in the Nunda and Crystal Lake High School, and is at present engaged in farming in connection with his father. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Terwilliger settled in the Green neighborhood, where he engaged in farming, later bought a farm in Nunda Township, but having sold this, during later years has carried on farming operations on the old Dufield farm. He is a practical farmer, a man of stanch character and, in politics, a Republican; is also a member of Woodstock Post, Grand Army of the Republic. He has served three years as Road Commissioner for his township.

Robert Green, the father of Mrs. Terwilliger, was born in Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 22, 1811, the son of Robert and Sarah (Manning) Green. On the paternal side, the Greens were of English descent, and among the original settlers of Rhode Island, and of the same stock as General Green of the Revolutionary War period. Robert Green, Sr., was born May 17, 1762, and his wife, Sarah Manning, May 25, 1770. Mr. Green was a farmer and died Dec. 29, 1812. His son, Robert Green, the father of Mrs. Terwilliger, received an ordinary education in the public schools of his day, and, on Nov. 25, 1840, in Schenectady County, N. Y., married Amy Curtis, who was born Feb. 28, 1821. After marriage they lived on the Green homestead, where they remained until 1845, when Mr. Green came to Dorr Township, McHenry County, where he bought 140 acres of unimproved land. Then returning to New York, the following year he brought out his family, arriving in Dorr Township, July 3, 1846, making the trip from Chicago to his destination in a lumber-wagon. Among other improvements made on this farm was the erection of a frame house which is still standing. Mr. George K. Bunker, now a venerable citizen of McHenry, assisted Mr. Green in cutting and hauling the logs for the frame-work of this house, and for his efficiency is gratefully remembered by Mrs. Green. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Green were: Willis H., born Sept. 16, 1841; Amy, born Jan. 6, 1844; Rhoda,



born Jan. 14, 1847; Sarah E., born April 11, 1850; Elizabeth, born Dec. 29, 1851; Silas C., born Feb. 12, 1855; Mary R., born May 14, 1857; Chauncy James, born March 14, 1860, died in infancy; Augusta, born Feb. 24, 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Green were members of the Presbyterian church at Ridgefield, and assisted to build the church edifice there.

Mr. Green was originally an old-line Whig, but in later life became a Democrat. He was a Major of the State militia in his native State of New York, and his sword, sash and epaulettes are still preserved by his descendants. He was also a member of Woodstock Lodge A. F. & A. M. Three of his daughters—Amy, Rhoda and Sarah—were teachers in the public schools, the last named receiving her certificate from the late A. J. Kingman, and being a teacher in Dorr Township for eight years. Mr. Green died May 21, 1894, at the age of eighty-two years. Mrs. Robert Green, who still survives on the old homestead at a venerable age, was the daughter of Silas P. and Rhoda (Morey) Curtis—her father, born March 10, 1796, and her mother, Nov. 2, 1800. Mr. Curtis was a farmer of Duaneburg, Schenectady County, N. Y., the son of Joseph Curtis. His children were: William Hicks, born Sept. 24, 1817; Joseph A., born May 8, 1819; Amy, born Feb. 28, 1821; Silas, born Sept. 23, 1824; Chauncy P., born Dec. 1, 1826; James Thorne, born Aug. 31, 1830; Jonathan J., born Nov. 16, 1832. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis were members of the Methodist church. In his old age Mr. Curtis went to Michigan, where he died at the home of his son Jonathan.

#### WILLIAM USBORNE.

William Osborne, born in County Kent, England, Feb. 18, 1819, son of John and Mary (Adams) Osborne, is one of the old settlers of Grafton Township, McHenry County.

John Osborne was a farmer of Kent County, and he and wife were the parents of six children: Mary, John, Elizabeth, William, Frances and Ann, all born in Kent. Mrs. Osborne died in England when William was about four years of age, and Mr. Osborne married as his second wife Jane Gilbert of Kent, England. Their children were Sarah and two children who died in New York City. Mr. Osborne and family sailed to New York from London, England, in a sailing-vessel and were eight weeks on the ocean, arriving in New York in December, 1830. In the spring he moved to Albany,

soon afterwards to Schenectady and later bought a farm in Eaton, Madison County, N. Y., where he lived until his death, which occurred when he was about eighty years of age. He was a member of the Church of England, an industrious and respected man and well deserved his reputation as an honored citizen.

Mr. William Osborne attended school in England a short time and, when about eleven years of age, came with his father's family to America, still remembering distinctly the events of the voyage. He continued school work at Eaton, Madison County, N. Y., and received a good common school education. Mr. Osborne was raised on a farm and under the kind supervision of his step-mother. He began to work out for others when about twelve years of age, and attended school but little after this. He lived six years with a man by the name of Ebenezer King in Sangersfield, and afterwards went to Jefferson County, N. Y., still continuing at farm labor, being last in the employ of Jacob Ten Eyck, a banker, caring for his horses. He stayed with Ten Eyck until about twenty-seven years old, when he was married at Eaton, N. Y., March 5, 1845, to Jane Gilbert, a niece of his step-mother, born at Headcorn, County of Kent, England, Dec. 24, 1827, the daughter of James and Jane Gilbert, natives of Kent.

James Gilbert was a farmer, moved to America with his family about 1843 and settled near Eaton, Madison County, N. Y. His children were: Charles, Jane, Robert, Mark, Edmund, Edwin and two who lived in England while young. Mr. Gilbert died in New York State aged about fifty-five years.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Osborne came to Illinois, arriving in Grafton Township, McHenry County, in October, 1845, making the journey by way of the lakes to Chicago. After his arrival in Illinois Mr. Osborne bought land from James Williams, a resident of New York State, consisting of 120 acres of partly improved "oak openings," which Mr. Williams had purchased from the United States Government. Mr. Osborne depended wholly upon Mr. Williams' reliability concerning his purchase, and paid him \$200 for the land, which was \$50 more than first cost. Mr. Osborne settled on his land, built a log house (stopping with a neighbor until his own house was completed), gradually improved his farm, and finally made a good home. He added to his first purchase until he owned 156 acres, it be-

ing one of the finest farms in Grafton Township. Mr. Usborne brought up his family in the log house in true pioneer style, and his children were: Mary Jane, born March 20, 1846; Charles Frederick, born Dec. 5, 1847; Albert Harris, born March 6, 1849; John Wesley, born Feb. 17, 1852; Louise Eliza, born Aug. 4, 1854; Almina Jenette, born Sept. 18, 1856. Mr. Usborne was an industrious and respected citizen, and in politics was an old-line Whig, and later one of the original Republicans, voting for John C. Fremont and later for Abraham Lincoln. In 1881 he moved to Huntley where he purchased a number of lots, built a pleasant residence and has since made this his home. Mrs. Usborne died at Huntley, March 5, 1896. She was a member of the Methodist church of Harmony, and a pioneer woman of excellent character. She and her husband lived together fifty-one years. Mr. Usborne is a man of upright character, throughout his life has been a hard-working man, raised a respected family and is one of the few remaining pioneers of McHenry County.

#### GEORGE VINTON.

The Vinton family traces its descent from French-Huguenot ancestry, John Vinton being the founder of the American branch of the family. He was born either in France or England, about 1620, and came to America prior to 1643, as the old records show him to have been at Lynn, Mass., in 1641, when his first child was born. He was the father of eight children, and from them descended all of the Vintons who are of American ancestry.

Of the second generation, John Vinton, son of John (1), of Lynn, Mass., was born March 2, 1650, and married April 26, 1677, Hannah Green, born Feb. 24, 1659, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca Green of Malden, Mass. He removed with his family to Woburn, Mass., in 1695, where he died in 1727.

Of the third generation, Captain Samuel Vinton, third son of John and Hannah (Green) Vinton, of Woburn, Mass., was born May 3, 1695, and was married March 22, 1720, to Elizabeth French of Braintree, Mass. Captain Samuel Vinton was a "bloomer," or blacksmith, by trade, though his principal occupation was farming. He removed to Braintree, Mass., in 1729, where he was a Surveyor, Constable and Captain of the militia. He died July 17, 1756. He and his wife, Elizabeth, were the parents of ten children.

David Vinton, of the fourth generation, son of Captain Samuel and Elizabeth (French) Vinton, was born in Woburn, Mass., March 17, 1725, and married Nov. 19, 1747, Ruth Dorman, daughter of Seth and Sarah (Thayer) Dorman. David lived in Braintree until 1752, when he removed to Stoughton, a neighboring town sixteen miles from Boston. About 1780 he removed from Stoughton to Willington, Conn., where he died in 1791. He and wife were the parents of twelve children.

Of the fifth generation, David, son of David and Ruth (Dorman) Vinton, was born in Stoughton, Mass., March 18, 1759, and married Persis Newton, March 10, 1778. He and his father were among the "Minute Men" of 1775. He settled at Stafford, Conn., about 1781, afterwards returned to Onondaga County, N. Y., where he died about 1820. His children were: Betsy, Persis, Howard, David, Porter, John and Ruth. This family became widely scattered, many of them settling in the West.

Of the sixth generation, Howard Vinton, son of David and Persis Vinton, was born in Willington, Conn., March 5, 1785, and married, Dec. 24, 1808, Betsy Bryant of East Hartford, Conn. About 1814 they settled at Vernon, Oneida County, N. Y., and cleared up a farm from the wilderness; in May, 1832, he removed to Monroe County, N. Y., where he died a few months later. His widow, a woman of great force of character, immediately went to work to improve the farm and was greatly aided by her son George, who was but eleven years old at the time of his father's death. Mrs. Vinton died at Naples, Ontario County, N. Y., at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Vinton were the parents of David, born Aug. 30, 1809; Julia Ann, born July 30, 1811; Edwin, born March 2, 1813; Julia Ann, born May 18, 1815; Persis, born March 24, 1817; Elizabeth, born June 4, 1819; George, born May 12, 1821; Lucy, born June 1, 1824; Jane, born March 10, 1827, died Sept. 27, 1828; Jane, born June 6, 1829, and John, born Sept. 7, 1831. Mr. Vinton was a member of the State militia and served in the War of 1812.

George Vinton was born May 1, 1821, at Vernon, N. Y., where his father had settled in 1814, and cleared up a farm in that heavily timbered region. The removal was a great change for the Vinton family, as they came from Connecticut where they had a comfortable home. At this time the Erie Canal had been constructed, but they were 116 miles from Albany, the nearest mar-



ket. In those days the mother spun the wool, wove all the cloth the family used and made it into clothing. Mr. Vinton received the usual common-school education afforded at the district schools of Oneida and Monroe Counties, N. Y., attending school during the winter months and working on the farm in the intervening summer season. George Vinton remained at home with his mother until twenty-two years old, and assisted her in keeping the home and family together. In 1843 he came to Michigan, making the journey by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes. At Utica, Mich., he drove a team for about two years, and then went to Kenosha County, Wis., where he settled on a tract of 240 acres of land. He was married at Utica, Mich., Sept. 12, 1845, to Harriet Covell, born in Palmer, Monroe County, N. Y., March 12, 1826 the daughter of James and Nancy (Cary) Covell.

James Covell, the father of Mrs. Vinton, was a merchant in Rochester, N. Y., and removed to Michigan in early times, where he settled on unimproved land and became a substantial citizen. He engaged in the mercantile business at Utica, Mich., where he owned a mill and distillery; also speculated on land and in his day was a wealthy man.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Vinton settled in Kenosha County, Wis., where he purchased and improved 280 acres of land, to which he subsequently made additions until he owned a farm of 560 acres. November 1, 1877, Mr. Vinton moved to Richmond and bought nine acres of land within the corporation limits upon which he built an attractive residence where he now lives, and for several years has been engaged in loaning money. Politically Mr. Vinton is at the present time a Republican, but in earlier days voted the Democratic ticket. He has been a member of the Town Council of Richmond and, in his old home township, was a member of the Board of Supervisors. His children were: J. Howard and Helen, the latter dying aged three and one-half years. Mrs. Vinton died April 28, 1887. She was a member of the Congregational church in which she was an active worker, and was greatly beloved by a large circle of friends.

J. Howard Vinton, son of George and Harriet (Covel) Vinton, was born in Kenosha County, Wis., Sept. 12, 1850. He received a common-school education and later attended the preparatory department of Beloit College. He is a farmer and conducts his father's farm. He has been twice married, first to Lulu Kirtland,

and they had one child, a daughter, Maud, who married D. I. Jarrett. His second marriage was with Minnie Potter, and they have one son, George H.

#### JOHN VAN HOOZEN.

John Van Hoozen, a substantial pioneer settler of McHenry County, is descended from a Holland-Dutch family, who were, in the colonial period, among the most prominent people of New York State, and assisted in founding New Amsterdam, now the City of New York. The grandfather, John Van Hoozen, was the son of George Van Hoozen, a farmer of Rensselaer County, N. Y., but later moved to St. Lawrence County, where he died at a venerable old age. His wife was named Margaret, and their children were: Jacob, John, Daniel, George, Kate, Nathaniel and Johanna.

The father, George Van Hoozen, was born at Nassau, Rensselaer County, N. Y., Feb. 18, 1803. He married Sarah Garrison, born in the same county, Aug. 22, 1804, the daughter of John and Hulda (Brockway) Garrison. The Garrisons were of English descent and an old American family. John Garrison was a Captain in the War of 1812, and served as a Justice of the Peace for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Garrison were the parents of four children: David, Sarah, Laura and Elizabeth.

After marriage, George Van Hoozen settled in Rensselaer County, and worked at his trade as a blacksmith. He moved with his family to Illinois in April, 1855, settling in Greenwood Township, McHenry County, where he purchased 212 acres of improved land, and lived there until his death Jan. 8, 1893, aged ninety years. His wife died Jan. 10, 1880. They were both members of the German Lutheran church.

John Van Hoozen, Sr., possessed the native thrift of his ancestors and accumulated a great deal of property. In politics he was independent. Mr. and Mrs. Van Hoozen were the parents of one child, John, the subject of this biography, who was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., Oct. 23, 1825, and brought up on a farm, receiving a common-school education. He married Catherine Payne, daughter of John and Jane (Van Buren) Payne, of Rensselaer County, N. Y. The Van Burens were also of an old colonial Holland-Dutch family, President Martin Van Buren being a cousin of the father of Mrs. Payne, and born in the same part of the State.





G. V. Wells



John Payne was a farmer of Rensselaer County, and lived there until his death, Aug. 28, 1838, aged about thirty-six years. Mr. and Mrs. Payne were the parents of children named Harmon, Nathaniel, James, John, Catherine and Chauncey.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Hoozen settled on the Van Hoozen homestead, where they lived until 1854, when they moved to Illinois and settled on a farm of 128 acres in Greenwood Township. Only a few acres of this farm had previously been cultivated, but Mr. Van Hoozen made extensive improvements, erecting substantial farm buildings and making of it a pleasant home. In 1880 he moved to his father's farm and lived there until 1894, when he purchased his present residence in Woodstock. Mrs. Van Hoozen died Oct. 26, 1897. She was an estimable lady and greatly beloved by all her friends. Mr. and Mrs. Van Hoozen were the parents of six children, in the order of their birth, named as follows: Alice J., who died when three years of age; George I.; Sarah J.; Leverett; Emma E., deceased; Eureka, Ida and Alida (twins), who died in infancy, and Nettie.

Mr. Van Hoozen is held in high esteem by a large circle of acquaintances. There has been nothing phenomenal in his successful career, which has been the result of constant application and indefatigable industry. There has been no lucky stroke of fortune in his life. He made good his opportunity to work, and by his frugality, his honesty, and truthfulness has given to his children the rich inheritance of a good name.

#### WALTER C. WELLS.

As a veteran of the Civil War and a high-minded and successful business man, the name of Walter C. Wells, of Marengo, deservedly stands among the highly respected citizens of McHenry County. The Wells family is of Puritan New England ancestry, Appleton Wells, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, having been born in Connecticut. From his native State of Connecticut he went, at an early day, to Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., later removed with his family to Cayuga County, N. Y., but returning to Sackett's Harbor, died there of diphtheria, at the age of about thirty-three years, leaving a family consisting of a wife and three children. His wife, whose maiden name was Rhoda Baldwin, was a native of

New York, and died at the home of her grandson, Walter C. Wells, in Jo Daviess County, Ill., at the age of eighty-seven years. Appleton Wells was a soldier of the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Sackett's Harbor. He was a merchant and his residence and property was destroyed by fire during the battle. Their children were: Marietta, Gustavus V., Ophelia and Leonidas K.

Gustavus V. Wells, the oldest son of this family, was born in Lorraine, Jefferson County, N. Y., June 28, 1808, and was but five years old when his father moved to Cayuga County. Here he remained until he was nineteen years of age, when he became an apprentice to the cooper's trade at Sinclairville, Chautauqua County. In 1832 he removed to Geauga County, Ohio, where he opened up a farm of ninety acres, and was engaged in this business for over twenty-five years. In 1858 he came to Marengo, McHenry County, Ill., whither his son Walter C., had preceded him some three years, and here became prominently identified with the business and social interests of McHenry County. In 1862 Mr. Wells was elected Justice of the Peace for the town of Marengo, an office which he continued to fill by successive re-elections for a period of twenty-six years. Then, although urgently requested to accept a re-election, he declined to do so, feeling that his declining years forbade his continuance in office. His discharge of the duties of this office—though often called upon to settle questions of a perplexing character—was marked by sound judgment and a spirit of candor, fairness and justice tempered with mercy, which rendered his administration one of the most noteworthy in McHenry County. He ever manifested a determination to uphold the law and accord equal and exact justice to all alike—the innocent and the guilty—and evil-doers learned to fear and respect his decisions. His opinions and advice were much sought after, and not unfrequently resulted in the amicable settlement of questions which, otherwise, might have resulted in needless litigation and ill-feeling. There never was an appeal taken from him to a higher court in which his decision was reversed. His judgments were considered wise, conservative and impartial to such a degree that, at each successive election at which he was a candidate, the vote for him was practically unanimous. He



has repeatedly served as a member of the Board of Village Trustees, as well as President of the Board and as Village or Town Clerk, always discharging his official duties with marked ability and fidelity. "Squire Wells," as he was familiarly called by his neighbors, was an earnest lover of good morals and a zealous champion of temperance, and it was largely due to his personal and official influence that Marengo was kept free from saloons for so many years. He never hesitated to enforce the anti-liquor law against its violators, no matter what influence was brought to bear on the other side.

On the organization of the First National Bank of Marengo in 1870, Mr. Wells was chosen its first President—a tribute due to his well-known probity of character and his wide knowledge of law connected with business matters. He continued in this position thirteen years, when he voluntarily resigned in favor of his successor, R. M. Patrick, accepting instead the position of Vice-President, on the ground that the more responsible position should be filled by a younger man.

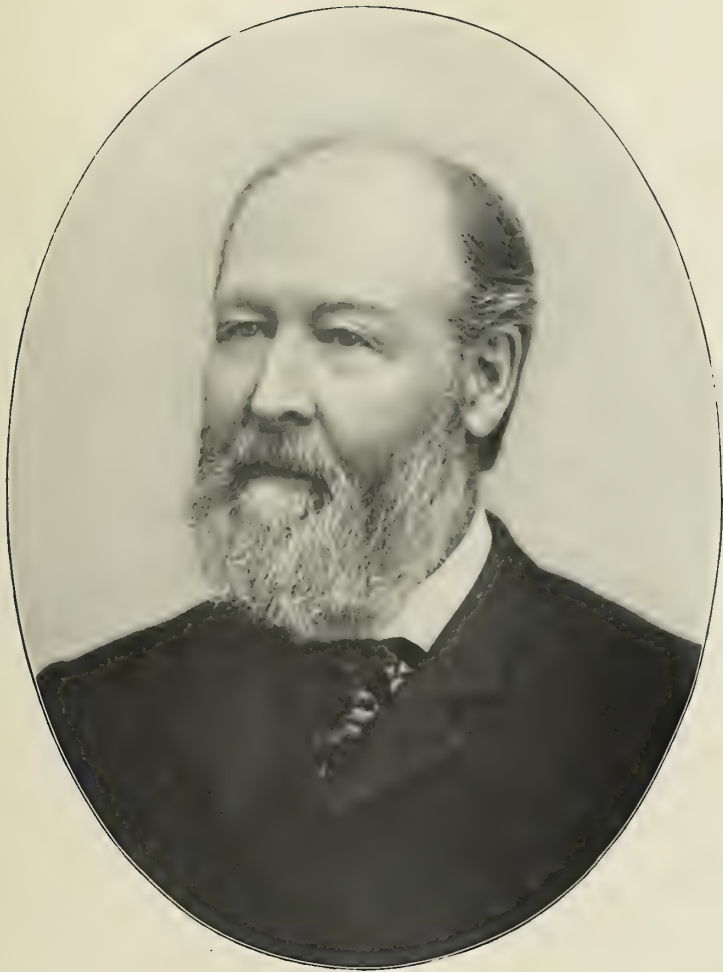
Mr. Wells was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry in Corning, N. Y., some time during the '40s, and on coming to Marengo became affiliated with Marengo Lodge, A. F. & A. M. He was always a great lover of the mystic order and faithful in his attendance on its meetings, and repeatedly served as Master of the Lodge, besides filling the office of Treasurer for many years. He was also a member of Lansing Chapter, No. 73, Royal Arch Masons, in which he served as High Priest for a number of years, always discharging the duties of this high office with dignity and honor, and manifesting that true fraternal courtesy and regard for his brethren which won for him the love and respect of the craft. He was an exemplary citizen; public-spirited, enterprising and progressive, he cheerfully contributed his counsel and his money in promoting the prosperity of his city. Every good cause found in him an earnest, warm-hearted friend. Quiet and unobtrusive in manner, yet eminently social and kindly disposed towards all—and to none more than to the unfortunate—he enjoyed in the highest degree the respect of those who knew him best. He enjoyed life in the society of his friends, though living not alone for self and the present, but with reference to the

life to come. Beginning life at the foot of the ladder, by industry and economy as a farmer he accumulated a moderate capital which, by prudent and careful investment, he was able largely to increase, so that at his death he was able to leave to his family a handsome competence.

Mr. Wells was married in December, 1829, to Miss Matilda Warner, the daughter of David Warner, and they had three children as follows: Walter C., born at Sinclairville, Chautauqua County, N. Y., Jan. 16, 1831; Marion B., born in Lake County, Ohio, March 23, 1836, and married Robert A. White, who is now deceased; and Josephine, born Oct. 9, 1844, and died at the age of ten years.

Originally a Universalist in religious belief, he was a generous contributor to other churches without regard to sectarian views or opinions, and, in his later life, was an attendant upon the services of the Methodist church. During the Civil War he was a zealous supporter of the Union cause, and heartily approved of the enlistment of his only son, remarking that otherwise he would have gone into the service himself. A. B. Coon, who served as Provost Marshal in McHenry County during this period, had his office with Squire Wells. By virtue of his position as an officer of the State militia while a resident of New York, he was widely known before coming to Illinois as Captain Wells. Mr. Wells' death occurred at Marengo, Sept. 25, 1894, at the age of eighty-seven years. His wife died April 3, 1889.

Walter C. Wells was but two years old when his parents moved from New York to Geauga County, Ohio, and, in the latter State, received his education in the district schools which, until fifteen years of age, he was accustomed to attend during the winter while working on the farm during the summer. During his residence in Ohio he attended the public school at Painesville, Lake County, which was near the home of the late President Garfield. Having remained at home until he had reached his majority, he then learned the art of the daguerreotypist at Painesville, and at twenty-two years of age established a studio, where he caught "the counterfeit presentment" of many of the leading citizens of those days, which continue to be preserved by their descendants as valued heir-looms. In 1855 he came to



Walter L. Wells





Marengo, McHenry County, and opened the first permanent picture gallery in McHenry county in a small wooden building erected by Henry Parkhurst. This was the second building erected on State Street, the lot now being occupied by the First National Bank of Marengo. Here he remained until 1860, meantime taking the pictures of many of the pioneers of McHenry County and their families, when he returned to Painesville, Ohio, where, on August 6, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company D, One Hundred and Fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry. His first service was performed in the State of Kentucky, where he took part in a forced march of 150 miles from Lexington to Louisville, for the purpose of heading off the advance of the Confederate General Bragg in his contemplated invasion of the North. Besides being compelled to march much of the time, both day and night, the command was greatly harassed by the Confederate cavalry under Gen. Kirby Smith, who had got in their rear, and many Union soldiers, who had fallen out of the ranks through exhaustion, were captured and taken to rebel prisons. The weather was intensely hot, and the soldiers were often compelled to march without rations, as the army wagons were far in the lead, being pushed forward to escape capture. The regiment at last reached Louisville with many of its members in a state of utter exhaustion. One of these was Mr. Wells, who fell senseless in the street from sun-stroke and exhaustion, and was only restored to consciousness after much blood had been extracted from his temple by an army surgeon. He was then transferred to the hospital at Louisville, where he remained under treatment above a month. Not yet having sufficiently recovered for active service in the field, he was detailed to duty as a clerk. Here his efficiency as a book-keeper and accountant, together with his facility in penmanship, soon made it evident that his services were of most value in the Provost Marshal General's Office, Department Headquarters, a position of responsibility requiring unusual skill and ability. He was then transferred to Company F, Fifteenth Regiment, Veteran Relief Corps, Department of Kentucky, Gen. John M. Palmer, commanding.

The Emancipation Proclamation opened the year of 1863 with arduous and rapidly increasing duties, in enlisting the eager contrabands

and properly assigning and providing for the wants of these new recruits. All the days were crowded, and many of the nights, with work for the large body of clerks employed in the different offices. The prisoners sent up from the front, destined for Camp Douglas and Johnson's Island, passing through, had to have accurate lists made; all had to be fed and nearly all provided with some article of clothing, blankets, shoes and caps.

His term of service amounted to three years and one month, when he was honorably discharged. Although an accomplished penman, Mr. Wells' compensation, while detailed for service as a clerk, amounted to only \$13 per month—the pay of a private soldier—while clerks employed from private life for the same duties received \$100 per month. After promotion to be Hospital Steward he received \$25 per month for a few months. Some specimens of Mr. Wells' penmanship, preserved in the army records, present the appearance of having been engraved, instead of being executed with the pen. He received many testimonials from his superiors to his faithful and efficient service, of which the following deserves to be placed on record as a specimen:

“Headquarters Department of Kentucky,  
“Medical Director's Office,  
“Louisville, Ky., Sept. 1, 1865.

“To Whom It May Conceren:

“This is to certify that Private W. C. Wells, Co. F, 15th Regt. 2nd Bat. V. R. C., has been a clerk in my office for some time past, and has performed some of its most responsible duties as such, and I recommend him as a person of regular habits, industrious and trustworthy.

“He bears with him, as he leaves the service by the expiration of his term of enlistment, my best wishes.

“A. J. Phelps, Surg. U. S. A.

Brevt. Col. & Med. Director, Dpt. of Kentucky.

After his discharge Mr. Wells returned to Painesville, Ohio, but soon after removed to Jo Daviess County, Ill., where he bought a farm of 120 acres. He soon after opened studios at Warren and Apple River, adjoining towns, where he prosecuted his profession as an artist for some time, but a few years later returned to Marengo. Here he built a photograph gallery and did a large business in his line—this being for many years the leading gallery in McHenry County. Here, with a record in Ohio and in Illinois of nearly fifty years in the business, he has taken many thousands of pictures of citizens of McHenry and adjoin-

ing counties. Mr. Wells has not restricted his work to the camera alone, however, for he is also an artist with the brush, and has painted many portraits and other pictures in oil, and now has some fine specimens of his work in this line.

June 3, 1852, Mr. Wells was married, at Ash-tabula, Ohio, to Miss Orlinda Sinclair Barrows, born at Hudson, Ohio, the daughter of William and Sallie (Sinclair) Burrows, and they have had one daughter, Estella J., born at Madison, Ohio, April 23, 1853, and now the wife of Dr. Albert Green, of Rockford, Ill. Dr. and Mrs. Green have four children: John A., Walter C., Harry L. and Frances W. Mrs. Green, before her marriage, received a collegiate education.

Originally an old line Whig, Mr. Wells became a Republican on the organization of that party, was a zealous supporter of Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency, and has been a staunch supporter of Republican principles ever since. He is a respected and influential citizen of Marengo, and has served as a member of the City Council four terms. Since 1894—the year of the death of his father—he has been Vice-President of the First National Bank of Marengo, and is one of the five directors of the Collins & Burgie Company, stove manufacturers of Marengo. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and one of the founders of the Harley Wayne Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Although stricken by a dangerous illness early in his term of enlistment, and thus prevented from discharging his duty as a soldier in the manner he had contemplated at the time of his enlistment, his record shows that he not only did not hesitate to risk his life in his country's cause, but that he performed his duty as faithfully and patriotically in every position assigned him, as if he had borne arms in the field through his whole period of service. In conclusion, it is but just to say that his career in civil life, as a man and a citizen, has been of the same high order as that which characterized his service as a soldier.

Mr. Wells is a studious reader of standard literature and has accumulated the largest private library in Marengo, including many valuable works of reference. Both he and his accomplished wife are great lovers of flowers, and, for years, they have cultivated a beautiful flower garden containing many rare speci-

mens, and his photographic gallery was always ornamented with a profusion of nature's richest and most beautiful productions, which proved a rare attraction.

It should be said in closing that, when Mr. Wells enlisted to serve his country as a soldier in the Civil War, he left at home a devoted wife and a little daughter; that courage and patriotism are not attributes of man alone, but that the brave-hearted wife and mother who faced the fearful anxiety and loneliness of patient waiting, who read the lists of killed and wounded with bated breath and throbbing heart, fearing that every name would be that of the husband and father, was as true a patriot and gave as much to her country, as the soldier who faced death on the Southern battlefield.

Mrs. Wells has always been a true helpmate and faithful assistant to her husband in his business. She is one of the few women of the Civil War whose hair is yet unsilvered, and who retains the vivacity of younger days, although she has passed more than half a century of wedded life.

#### SKETCH OF THE 105th O. V. I.

From its Muster to its Retreat to Louisville, Ky.—From the Pen of Judge Albion W. Tourgee, a Private of the Regiment.

On the 16th day of August, 1862, the Secretary of War telegraphed the Governors of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan, begging them to send troops at once to Cincinnati and Louisville, in order to hold Kentucky for the Union; on the next day Governor Tod of Ohio promised four regiments in five days.

The 105th O. V. I. was the first installment of this pledge. On the 19th the Department of Ohio was formed, and Gen. Horatio G. Wright was assigned with orders first to relieve Gen. Morgan and then to see that Gen. Buell's communications were secure. The regiment was mustered into the United States service on August 21, 1862, at Camp Taylor, now University Heights, Cleveland, Ohio. When the organization was completed, an order was received that sent a thrill of wondering surprise through every one who heard it. It was a telegram from the Governor of the State as follows:

"Col. Albert S. Hall, 105th O. V. I.:

"The enemy have invaded Kentucky. You will report with your regiment to Maj. Gen. H. G. Wright, commanding Department at Cincinnati, without an instant's delay. Camp and garrison equipage will be forwarded to meet you there.

"DAVID TOD, Governor."



*Mrs Walter C. Wells*





It was high noon when the ranks were broken. Sixty minutes afterwards the regiment was on the march to the depot, and two hours later were being whirled away to the theater of war. The men who took the oath of service on that August day of 1862 were fresh from their shops and harvest fields. Only a few of them enjoyed the proud distinction of having seen service. For the rest, field, staff and line, the whole rank and file were products of the life of the Western Reserve.

Two-thirds of them were farmers' sons, who, up to that time, had been at school, at work upon their fathers' farms, or employed by the month by some neighbor, preparatory to setting up for themselves. There was one lawyer and five law students among them, one minister, some dozens of clerks, two medical students, and a hundred or more teachers. Eighty-five per cent. of them were of native parentage.

One-fifth of those of foreign birth, who had missed the advantage of free schools, signed the muster roll with a cross. Only one who was native born made his mark. There were no rich men in the regiment, probably but one worth more than ten thousand dollars, and, perhaps not half a dozen who could claim more than half that valuation. At the same time there were no poor men among them. Every one was self-supporting or belonged to a family of substantial means, or engaged in profitable industry.

Of those who worked for wages, the average monthly stipend was at least double the pay the soldier received. Of farm-laborers the lowest rate reported by nearly two hundred survivors was fourteen dollars a month and board—the recipient being a boy of seventeen. From that amount the wages of a farm-laborer ranged up to twenty-five and thirty dollars per month.

Clerks received from thirty to forty dollars and board; teachers from twenty-five to one hundred dollars a month. There were half a dozen college students, and more than a hundred students of the various academies, in the region from which the regiment was drawn, enrolled in the different companies.

This region comprised the five easterly counties of the Western Reserve, the north-easterly counties of Ohio—Ashtabula, Trumbull, Lake, Geauga and Mahoning. This is the famous Nineteenth Ohio Congressional District. One of these counties was the home of Benjamin F. Wade and Joshua R. Giddings, pre-eminent among the champions of liberty and justice in that day—"Benighted Ashtabula," as it is termed in mockery and as it proclaimed itself in pride, having, as was claimed, the lowest rate of illiteracy of any county in the Union. The Western Reserve also gave us Gen. James A. Garfield and (Ossawatimie)

John Brown and his right-hand man, who was killed in the ill-advised Harper's Ferry undertaking.

The battle of liberty had already been fought out in its homes and schools. A few slavery men still lived, and scowled and snarled among them; but "free-speech, free-soil, free-men," had been the watch word of the great mass of its people long before it became the slogan of the party.

When the regiment left for the front, it was but eight days since the first of them had left their homes; but forty-six of them had ever seen an hour's service; hardly half the companies had had more than three or four hours' drill, and one of them, at least, only one hour; but nothing was strange in those days of self-forgetfulness. The men had been neighbors, schoolmates, friends. No wall of exclusion separated them from their officers; rank made little difference in their relations. Obedience, indeed, became habitual, but it was the willing obedience of the intelligent man, not the slavish submission of an inferior based on fear of punishment. Because of this, the 105th became noted for the parental character of its discipline. It had an enviable reputation for good order and prompt obedience, but it was especially distinguished for the mildness and infrequency of its punishments.

From the point of view of the regular officer, all this was horribly bad form; but the theory of discipline which prevails in our regular army is purely monarchical and aristocratic. Despite the many gallant and noble officers it contains, it is in theory and in practice a disgrace to the republic. When the ranks shall be made the only door to West Point and every soldier shall have an open field for preferment, it will become the most efficient army in the world; then desertions will cease and the expense of recruiting be avoided, since the best young men of the nation will seek the army as a desirable career. It is a change that is sure to come, since it is dictated by every patriotic consideration. The country cannot afford either to rear aristocrats or to deprive men in the ranks of the soldier's just reward, the right to wear a sword when he has fitted himself for the duties of command.

On the day after the 105th was mustered in, Kirby Smith, the Confederate General, having turned the Federal position at Cumberland Gap, arrived with fifteen thousand men at Barboursville, Ky., and seven days later General Buell began his retreat. It was at this juncture of national affairs that the 105th, the day after it had been mustered in, reported to Maj. Gen. H. G. Wright, commanding the Department of Ohio at Cincinnati, and was ordered to cross the river and wait for arms and equipment. This occupied three days, during which

time the regiment was drilled as well as possible for raw recruits, by inexperienced drill masters.

Hardly was the last belt-plate issued, and the voucher for it signed when the 105th was ordered to the front. It was a hot, dusty ride to southward. Then there were four days of Lexington, in freight cars, eighty miles to the quiet camp life—the very poetry of war. The tents were pitched in a magnificent grove; a hundred acres of brown pasture, baked with drouth until it echoed like a tiled floor beneath the tread, served as the drill-ground.

On the 30th day of August, the ninth day after muster-in, the regiment was engaged, between drills, in drawing the last of their equipments, blankets, overcoats and shoes. The heavy, double blankets and winter clothing were too burdensome for the sultry August weather.

Then the order came—"The regiment will move in an hour in light marching order, with two days' rations and forty rounds of ammunition;" the rations were unobtainable, but the ammunition was distributed and the Quartermaster ordered to follow with the rations. There were rumors of a fight in progress.

Just as the sun went down the 105th marched out of its first camp on its way to a field of battle when the fight had already been lost. The road was the rough stone pike so common in Kentucky and Tennessee. It was past midnight when we halted, a dozen miles from Lexington, and throwing out pickets in front and on the flanks, lay down in a cornfield in line of battle and slept until dawn. Then we moved forward nearly to the Kentucky River, where we halted to allow the shattered fragments of a defeated army to pass us to the rear. This was Gen. Manson's brigade, which had been defeated at Richmond by the confederates under Gen. Kirby Smith. With this tide of defeat the 105th returned to Lexington, where they arrived at nine o'clock at night in the midst of a drenching shower, only to meet an order to go on picket. They had marched with hardly half a day's rations, instead of the amount ordered, that being all the Quartermaster could supply, and few had eaten since morning. These facts being reported, the order to go on picket was revoked and they were directed to bivouac in the market-house, where coffee and an abundant supply of bread and meat were served to them. It was midnight when they sank to rest after our first march—a march of twenty-eight miles—on the rough pavement of a market place, a foot-sore and weary multitude.

On the morrow the evacuation of Lexington began. At eight o'clock in the morning we were ordered out on the Nicholasville pike, but the sun was setting when the 105th marched through the streets of Lexington—the last regiment of the Army of Kentucky on its retreat to Louisville, ninety-five miles away, as the crow flies. That night the mounted rear-

guard missed its way and followed the first division of the wagon train, which had taken another road, leaving us on the eleventh day of our service in the most trying of all military positions, that of rear-guard of an army fleeing from a victorious foe.

#### "THE HELL MARCH."

It had not rained here for many weeks—since the shower of the night before had hardly reached a mile from Lexington. The dust lay ankle deep upon the hard, hot, limestone pike. The forces that preceded us with their numerous wagons, had raised a cloud which hung over the road, shutting out even the walls and fences on either side. The setting sun shone red and dim through the yellow mass. Each man was weighted down with knapsack and accoutrements. We knew nothing of our destination, or the length of our march before us. Had the knapsacks been burned at the outset, many more would have reached the goal. Men were invisible a few steps away; near at hand, they could only be distinguished by their voices. There were frequent halts but no rests. When the column ahead got jammed upon itself we waited until it straightened out. Sometimes it was a minute, sometimes ten or twenty minutes. The yellow acrid dust settled on beard and hair, got into the eyes and mouth and burned the parched throats, while the perspiration made many channels down every face.

The night fell hot and murky. The dust-cloud shut out the stars. By and by the moon rose; the night grew chill, but still the dust rose in choking clouds. The orders forbade details to leave the road in search of water. Men were sent on in advance, in hope that they might fill the canteens before the wells were drained. Long before midnight not a drop remained. In spite of orders, a few men were sent out to search for water. It was a strange country. The pools and streams were dry. The wells had been exhausted by those in front. Many of the people were compelled to haul water from a distance for domestic use. These details returned empty-handed as the others had done. About this time colored men came one by one, and offered to bring water, to carry guns or knapsacks,—anything, if they could only follow us. They were loaded down with canteens and accompanied by a few men started for water. An hour after they returned, staggering under their loads of dripping canteens. Was ever water half so sweet? Yet we had scarcely begun to know what thirst was. The march would have been a severe one to seasoned, unincumbered veterans; to these men, yet foot-sore, galled and weary from their first long march, and weighted down with knapsacks, overcoats and blankets, in addition to ammunition and accoutrements, it was terrible. After a time, men ceased to scatter to the roadside when they came to a halt. They had no strength to spare, and the roadside was almost as dusty as the pike. So they merely knelt down in



their places, bowed themselves forward to relieve the strain on the straps that galled and cut into the shoulders, and slept. In the moonlight they looked like heaps of dust, or pilgrims fallen asleep at prayer. At the word, they stumbled to their feet, sometimes awake, sometimes asleep, and staggered on. The ambulances were soon full. It was said there were wagons somewhere in front in which those who were unable to go farther, might be transported. When a man can go no farther, such provision is of little good. We were the rear of the column; back of us was only our rear-guard and the enemy. There were several alarms during the night; firing off at the left, then at the right, then in our rear. It was probably marauding bands of guerillas, who set upon our men in search of water. The morning was already hot and lurid as the dusty column crept through Versailles, and after an hour's halt for breakfast, pressed on towards Frankfort. The enemy had followed the cavalry by way of Big Spring, so that our rear was undisturbed until we were in sight of Frankfort. The sun was going down when we reached the capital of Kentucky. It is but twenty-nine miles from Lexington by the most direct route. The one by which we had come was half a dozen more. It could hardly be termed a march; it was a flight.

It was ten o'clock when the weary detail brought with dragging feet the rations they had been out seeking. Coffee was quickly made; a half-cooked meal was eaten and we sunk again to slumber. At two o'clock we were aroused by whispered orders. The city was quiet, save for the careful tread of moving columns and the steady rumble of wagons crossing the bridge and on the pike beyond. Our destination was now clear. Frankfort, lying on both sides of the Kentucky River, offered a fairly good defensive position against an enemy upon the right bank of the river, to which the Confederates had evidently crossed. A very small force, by destroying the bridges, could here delay a pursuing army for several days. If the retreat was necessary, as it no doubt was, to leave the bridges standing after we had crossed, would be the gravest of military crimes. But the authorities of Kentucky protested against the bridges being burned. So they were left standing, until the enemy in turn found it necessary to retreat. Then they were burned.

The foot-sore and exhausted soldiers were with difficulty roused from sleep. It is little wonder. Within four days they had marched seventy miles; laid in line of battle one night and marched all of another. Every foot was blistered; every muscle was sore. Heavy with sleep they staggered to their places in the line, the stronger aiding the weaker ones. There were moans and curses. Some of the stoutest of yesterday were now the faintest. Slowly we dragged our way to our position in the retreating column and stumbled painfully along in the darkness. With the dawn came the sound of firing in our rear. The enemy's cavalry had crossed the bridge we kindly left

standing for their accommodation. A line of battle was formed upon a range of hills that lay across the pike. The men cheered as they filed out of the clouds of dust at the prospect of being allowed to fight. As we flung ourselves upon the ground in line of battle, it was with the feeling that we would rather die than retreat farther.

But the enemy did not attack. As a matter of fact, his force was insignificant; but having once underestimated his strength our officers had gone to the other extreme and overrated it. Several times during the day, this maneuver was repeated. The march grew more and more difficult with each hot and dusty mile. Men dropped unconscious from heat and thirst. Water was still scarce. Every well and spring was drained. Men crowded about them, pushing, scrambling, often fighting for a few muddy drops. Tormented by heat and thirst and almost smothered by dust, we dragged ourselves through the long hours of that day, bivouacking at night by the roadside with no water save what was found after a long search, in some stagnant pools two miles away. At one o'clock the order came to move, and we again plodded on, halting every few minutes, the men dropping on their faces in the dust, would be asleep almost before the command was given.

When the word came to march, many of them would rise and stagger on, still asleep. That day we marched until eight o'clock at night and then bivouacked, for the first time since leaving Lexington, in a green field with plenty of good water. The next day, September 5th, a little after noon, we reached the suburbs of Louisville where we remained and camped for a month. The 105th had been under arms continuously, on the march on picket or line of battle, ever since the sunset of August 30th, six days less three hours. In that time, they had marched about 140 miles—an average of twenty-three miles for each twenty-four hours. During this time they had slept in line of battle on the night of the thirteenth three hours; five hours in Lexington, the night of the thirty-first; marched all night of September first; halted six hours in Frankfort, the night of the second; halted five hours on the night of the third; slept eight hours on the night of the fourth—making in the whole six days only twenty-seven hours of sleep. After three years' of service, more than two hundred of the survivors have testified that this march was the severest work required of them. At its close, hardly one-third of the regiment was fit for duty; scores were permanently disabled. The ultimate loss was greater than that sustained in any action in which the regiment afterwards participated. It is fitly designated the "Hell-March." It was a terrible experience for men who had hardly marched a mile before, and whose service only numbered fifteen days when it was ended.

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#### JOHN T. WELLS.

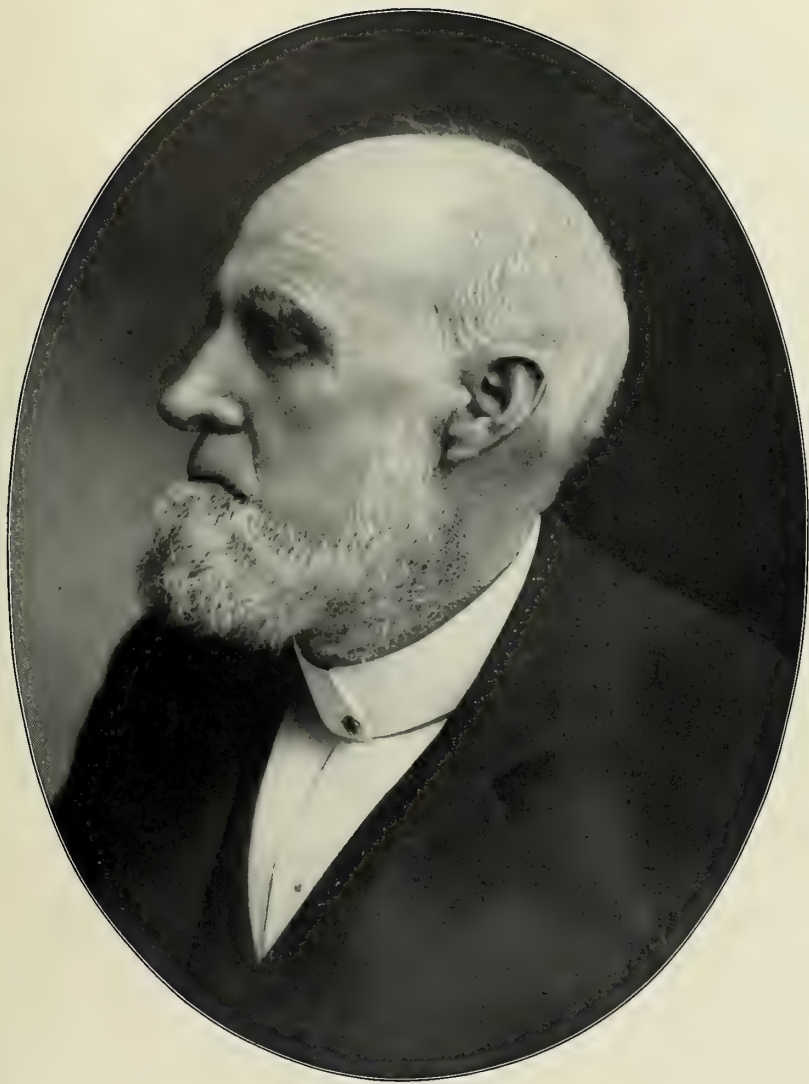
John T. Wells (deceased), early settler of McHenry County, was born in the State of New

York, Nov. 2, 1810, the son of Tunis and Ruth (Rogers) Wells. The paternal branch of this family was what was known in Eastern New York as "Mohawk-Dutch stock." His father, Tunis Wells, was a farmer by occupation and in 1837, moved with his family to Wayne County, Ohio, and settled in Lodi, retired from active business life, dying there Sept. 6, 1846. He was in comfortable circumstances pecuniarily, and a devout member of the Methodist church, in which he was a class-leader. His children were: John F., Harriet, Lydia, Hannah, Jacob, Joseph and Daniel. John T. Wells, the oldest son and subject of this sketch, received a good common-school education and was trained to the life of a farmer. When about twenty years of age he went to Wayne County, Ohio, where he found employment with a concern engaged in the manufacture of potash, serving as clerk in the store, and remaining in the business eight years. He married in Lodi, Ohio, May 4, 1846, Sophia Fitts, and immediately thereafter came to McHenry County, Ill., settling in the southeast corner of Coral Township. Here he bought 200 acres of land at the Government price of \$1.25 per acre, upon which he built a log-house and began improving his land into a farm. On February 5, 1847, his wife, to whom he had been married less than a year previous, died, leaving no children. On December 25, 1848, he was married in Coral Township to Miss Nancy Elizabeth Bridges, the daughter of Abiel and Lucretia (Houghton) Bridges. After his second marriage he continued to reside on his farm, which he improved still further, making of it a comfortable homestead. To Mr. and Mrs. Wells were born six children—one son and five daughters. Of these one son, Abiel, and two daughters, Alice Elizabeth and Ernestine Lucretia, are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Wells were both members of the Presbyterian church. He was an advocate of local improvements, held the office of School Director, serving as Clerk of the Board, assisted in building the first log school-house in his district, and was one of the chief supporters of the erection of the new school-house which took its place. Originally an old line Whig in politics, he became one of the original members of the Republican party in McHenry County, and, during the Civil War, was a zealous supporter of the Union cause. While prevented by infirm health from

serving as a soldier, he did his full share, as a public-spirited and patriotic citizen, in raising men and money in support of the integrity of the Union and the cause of popular freedom and good government. In 1871 he removed to Marengo, where he bought residence property with a farm near the town. He continued to reside in Marengo until his death, which occurred Oct. 4, 1894, at the age of nearly 68 years. Mr. Wells was an industrious citizen, temperate in habits and of high moral character, enjoying the general respect of the community. Fraternally he was associated with the Masonic Order, being an early member of the Lodge at Huntley and still later of that at Marengo.

Mrs. John T. Wells (nee Nancy Elizabeth Bridges) was of New England ancestry, her father, Abiel Bridges, having been born in New Hampshire, Dec. 31, 1793. He had a good common-school education for his day pursued the life of a farmer and, early in life, went to Norwich, N. Y., where, on July 13, 1820, he married Lucretia Houghton, who was born there of New England and Puritan stock, Jan. 4, 1805. After marriage, Mr. Bridges settled in Green, Chenango County, N. Y., where he cleared up a farm in the forest. In 1835 he removed to Medina County, Ohio, but five years later (1840) came to McHenry County, Ill., transporting his family and effects overland in two wagons—one drawn by a team of three horses and the other by two yoke of oxen. His wagons were covered with home-made linen canvas manufactured by the family. Abiel Bridges' children—all except the two last named born in New York—were: Elvin, born June 29, 1821; Prudence, Sept. 10, 1823; Izanna, Nov. 5, 1825; Nancy E., July 31, 1828; Philip, April 2, 1830; Mila E., May 28, 1841, died Nov. 9, 1841; Philo E., Oct. 1, 1842. Arriving in McHenry County, Mr. Bridges settled on 120 acres of Government land in Coral Township, upon which he built a log-house and which he improved from a state of nature into a goodly homestead. Soon after locating in McHenry County his health became impaired and he was disabled by rheumatism for many years. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church in which he held the office of deacon, and he assisted in building the first church edifice of that denomination in Marengo. Originally an old line Whig, in his





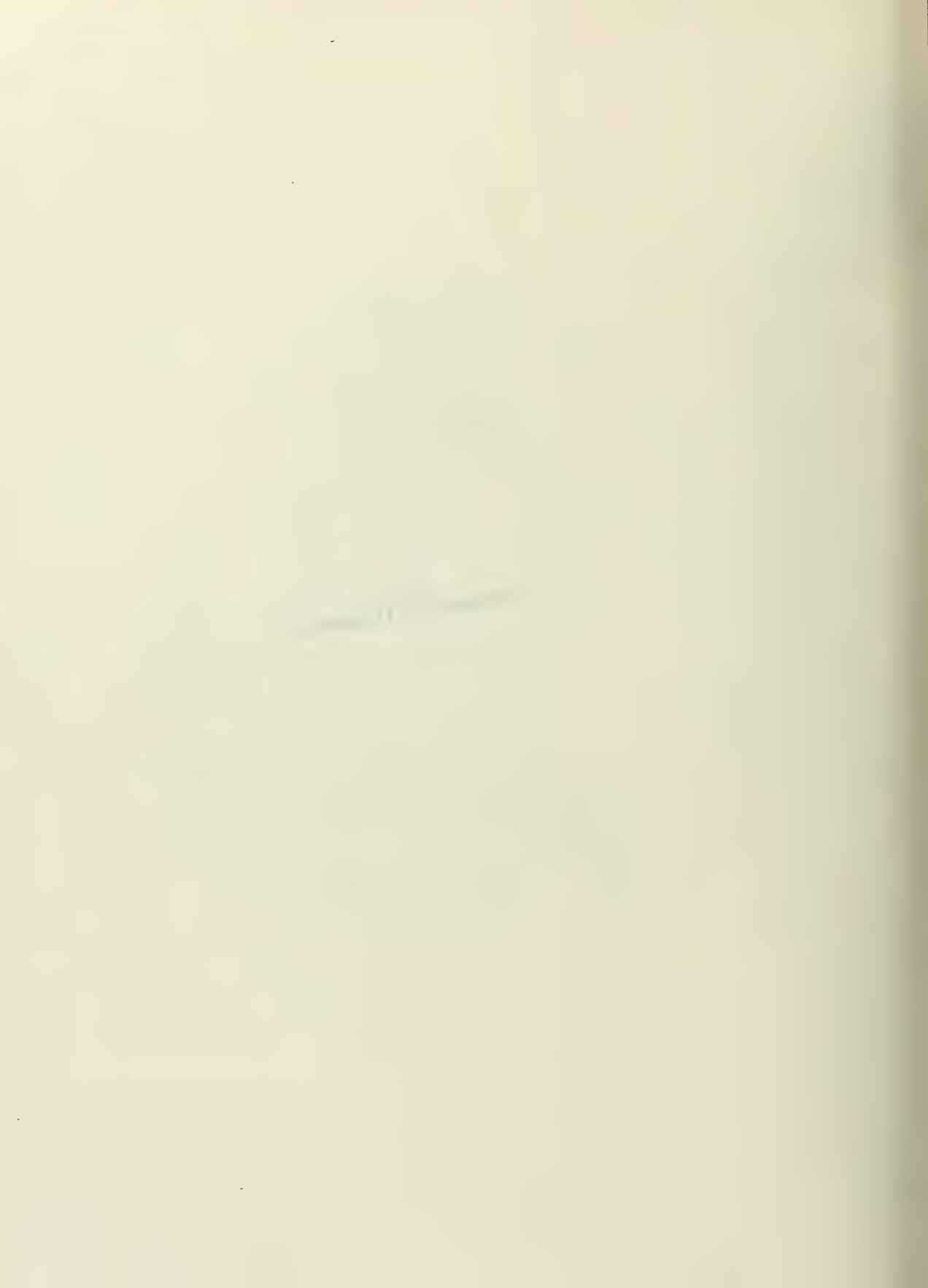
*Loren Woodard*







*Dr. Belle Seward Howard.*





later years he became a stanch Republican. He served as a soldier of the War of 1812, when only fifteen years of age. He died on his home farm May 26, 1867.

Mr. John T. Wells left a good property to his family at his death. Mrs. Wells, in company with her son Elbert A. bought a farm in Coral Township consisting of 90 acres, which they still retain. Elbert A. received a good education in the Marengo High School, and is now a practical farmer.

#### LOREN WOODARD.

Loren Woodard, Marengo, Ill., is one of the early settlers of Marengo, McHenry County, where he engaged in the nursery business, and in that and other branches of business, has had a most successful career and accumulated a handsome competence. Of English stock, Mr. Woodard's ancestors were among the founders of New England, who settled in Massachusetts in the days of Puritan emigration. His paternal grandfather, who was a native of New England, became a farmer and settled at an early day in Albany County, N. Y., where he died. He had two sons: Enoch, who married Polly David, a daughter of Rensselaer David and, later in life, settled in La Pere County, Mich., and Jonathan W. The latter was born July 4, 1793, received a common-school education, adopted the life of a farmer, and served in the War of 1812 as a member of a New York company, taking part in the battle of Sackett's Harbor. He was married in Albany, N. Y., to Deborah David, who was born in Albany County, the daughter of Rensselaer David. The Davids were also of English descent, and related to the family of Sir Isaac Newton. Besides the two daughters already mentioned Rensselaer David had two other children: Rensselaer and Hannah.

Jonathan Woodard moved to Onondaga County, N. Y., where he purchased a tract of timber-land on which he opened a farm. About 1843, he removed to Lapeer County, Mich. where he established a home on a tract of 160 acres. His children were: Nancy, born in Albany County, N. Y., and died in consequence of an accident at three years of age; William, also born in Albany County, became a soldier in the Civil War and died while in active service on the Western Plains; Deborah Ann, born in Oswego County, March 1, 1822, married

Lewis Whitehead, and died at Kingston, Mich., April 30, 1894; Hosea L., born Feb. 11, 1825; Loren, born Feb. 6, 1827; Sophronia, born in 1829; Rena, born in 1831; Warren, born in 1833; John, born May 31, 1835—the last seven all being born in Oswego County. Mrs. Jonathan Woodard was a woman of strong religious convictions and a member of the Methodist church. She died in Lapeer County, Mich., about 1847, and five years later Mr. Woodard came to reside with his son Loren, at Marengo, Ill., where he died Dec. 3, 1881. He was a man of high moral character and sturdy business habits.

Loren Woodard, as already stated, was born in Oswego County, N. Y., Feb. 6, 1827, and, until sixteen years of age, enjoyed only the limited advantages of acquiring an education afforded by attendance on the district schools in winter while engaged in farm work during the summer. Then going to Syracuse, N. Y., he learned the nursery business with Messrs. Thorp, Smith & Hanchett, leading nurserymen of that time, remaining nine years. He was married in that city Nov. 14, 1849, to Harriet Levey, daughter of Michael and Mary (Weller) Levey, who was born at Truxton, N. Y., Oct. 23, 1825. Her father, who was of Holland-Dutch ancestry, located near Syracuse in 1852, and later removed to Illinois where he settled on Government land in Coral Township, McHenry County, dying at the age of about fifty-six years.

In November, 1852. Mr. Woodard came to Marengo, McHenry County, where he at once engaged in the nursery business, obtaining his stock from the firm with which he had been connected in New York and others, purchased the ground on which he now lives, with an additional tract of thirty-eight acres opposite, and soon had twenty-four acres of grafted stock growing and ready for the market—this being the first nursery of any importance in McHenry County. For twenty-six years he continued in this line, traveling extensively and employing others to sell his stock, thus building up a large trade and introducing much fine fruit throughout the West. About 1867 he engaged in the pickle business, built a factory, and has conducted a large and successful trade.

Although past his seventy-fifth year, Mr. Woodard is still in active business, was one

of the original stockholders of the Dairymen's Bank of Marengo, of which he is at present the Vice-President; is a Director of the First National Bank of Marengo, and one of the original organizers of the State Bank of Woodstock, of which he is still a stockholder. Politically he is a staunch Republican, casting his vote for John C. Fremont for President in 1856 and for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 and 1864; held the office of Township Supervisor four years; for four years was President of the Board of Village Trustees, and for five years a member of the City Council. In 1867 he was chosen the first Treasurer of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society, a position which he retained thirty-three years, but, in 1901, having declined a re-election, was accorded the honor of a life-membership in recognition of his long and valued service. Mr. Woodard is a member of Marengo Lodge, No. 138, A. F. & A. M., and of Lansing Chapter 73, R. A. M., of the latter of which he is a charter member, and of Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T. He is also a member of the Marquette Club, Chicago, in which he has held offices. In religious faith and affiliation Mr. Woodard is a Methodist, was a member of the building committee and most liberally contributed to the erection of the new church and parsonage of that denomination at Marengo, besides being a generous contributor to other church organizations and benevolent enterprises.

Mrs. Harriet Woodard, to whom Mr. Woodard was married in 1849, died Jan. 14, 1899, having borne him one son, Allen M., who was born July 28, 1856, but died Jan. 26, 1875. They brought up several other children, including two adopted daughters—Lizzie and Minnie Woodard—who were reared from childhood and given a liberal education.

On July 16, 1901, Mr. Woodard was married to Dr. Belle Seward, of Marengo, whose sketch will be given more fully hereafter.

The history of Mr. Woodard's business career affords abundant evidence of his strong character as a citizen and business man. A liberal supporter of religious and charitable enterprises, he has done much to lighten the burdens of others, not only by his acts of unostentatious benevolence, but has lightened his own household and assured to himself happiness, in his declining years, by providing homes for the homeless children of other families.

At a time when others have laid aside the burdens and responsibilities of business life, he is still actively engaged in the discharge of his duties as a citizen of the community in which he has resided for fifty years.

BELLE SEWARD WOODARD, M. D.—This well-trained physician and cultured lady has practiced her chosen profession at Marengo and in the surrounding country, for a period of twenty years. She took her course in medicine and began practice at a time when the obstacles which barred the entrance of women into the professions in general, and to this one in particular, were in full force and effect, and when popular prejudice excluded women, to a large extent, from employment as physicians in private families. It is no doubt true that the first nurse was a woman, and that, in ancient times, with medicines concocted from roots, barks and herbs, she healed the sick and ministered to the wounded; while many records show that, even in our own country, at an early period, there were women who devoted all their time to the treatment of diseases and enjoyed a considerable practice. Undoubtedly woman was the first to minister to her sister when the aid of the midwife was needed; but for a woman to engage in actual study for the profession in an established college of medicine, receive the coveted degree of M. D., and settle down to practice, was regarded as an innovation marking an era in the time. And thus it was, that Dr. Belle Seward was entitled to be regarded as one of the pioneers in this new era of progress.

Dr. Woodard was born in Marengo, the daughter of Ephraim Hewitt and Maria Louise (Rogers) Seward, in their delightful old home which is still standing, and was probably. In its day, the best residence in this part of McHenry County. The view from its old-fashioned and spacious porch, with its Grecian columns, presents one of the most extensive and attractive landscapes in Northern Illinois. When covered with the ripening crops, it presented a scene unsurpassed in rural beauty.

Miss Seward attended the public schools of her native town, finishing her literary course in Rockford Female Seminary, now Rockford College. She then entered the Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago, whence she graduated in 1882 with the degree of M. D., and immediately thereafter began practice at the



*Mrs. Harriet Levey Woodard.*





City of Rockford, in which she soon won success, besides drawing about herself many warm friends. Then, believing she was needed in her native town of Marengo, she removed thither, devoting her whole strength and ability to her profession with marked success from the outset. Her practice was not confined to the town alone, but has extended to the surrounding country, compelling her, at times, to take night rides in all sorts of weather and engage in the treatment of all kinds of diseases. She has thus become well-known and highly appreciated throughout a wide region, and has been especially successful in the treatment of diseases peculiar to women and children. She has been a liberal patron of the leading medical periodicals, and has accumulated a valuable library of the most recent scientific and medical works, of which she has been a close student, and has thus kept up with the ever-varying changes and discoveries of modern medical research. Her practice has made her a frequent and welcome visitor in the best families in McHenry County, and she has had as large a number of patients and as much success in their treatment, as any other physician in this section of the county.

#### THE SEWARD FAMILY.

Ephraim Hewitt Seward (deceased), the father of Dr. Belle (Seward) Woodard, and a pioneer of Coral Township, McHenry County, was descended from an old Colonial family of that name, of which the Seward family of New York (of which Secretary William H. Seward was a member) was a lateral branch. Jedediah Seward, the father of Ephraim H., was a soldier of the War of 1812 from New York State. He was twice married, having a son by the first marriage, also named Jedediah. His second wife was Susan Hewitt, one of whose brothers is reputed to have been one of the early settlers and the proprietor of a considerable tract of land, on or near the site of Marietta, the first settlement in Ohio, and possibly a member of Gen. Rufus Putman's company. In Indian times, this Mr. Hewitt at one time swam the Miami River to escape the Indians, who were pursuing him. Jedediah Seward married his second wife (Susan Hewitt) at Middletown, Vt., where they reared a family of children named Lura Ann, Matilda, Margaret, Ephraim and Betsy. He died on his farm near Middletown.

Ephraim Seward was born at Middletown, Vt., Sept. 15, 1823, and was reared on a farm, receiving a common-school education, after which he attended the Troy Conference Academy, at Poultney, Vt., one year. He subsequently taught school for a time in his native State, after which, at nineteen years of age, he engaged in selling the Gray Horse-power threshing machine invented by Albert W. Gray of Middletown, believed to have been the first grain-threshing machine ever manufactured. The manufacturing firm is still in existence under the name of A. W. Gray & Son. Mr. Seward also sold other agricultural implements of that early period, including the Haynes horse-rake, reputed to be the first of its kind ever made. In the prosecution of his business he travelled through Vermont and New York and later in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. In 1846 he came to Marengo, Ill., and on November 5th of that year, was married to Maria Louise Rogers, whom he had previously met at his old home in Vermont. She was a native of Middletown, born Jan. 6, 1828, the daughter of Anson and Rebecca (Hart) Rogers.

Anson Rogers was born at Middletown, Jan. 6, 1802, the son of Jedediah Rogers (see sketch of O. P. Rogers), was brought up on a farm, received a common-school education, becoming a superior mathematician. He learned the hatter's trade from his father. His wife (Rebecca Hart) was born at Plainfield, Conn., Sept. 22, 1786, the daughter of Jonathan and Abigail (Prentice) Hart. She had previously been married to Elisha Jones, and there were three children of this marriage, viz.: Maria Louise, born Jan. 6, 1828; Henry O., born March 12, 1831, and Lucinda H., born in December, 1833—all born in Middletown, Vt. Mrs. Rogers' grandfather Hart was a Revolutionary soldier and was killed in the defense of New London, Conn., at the time of the attack on that place by Benedict Arnold. The family was of Welsh descent and Jonathan (Mrs. Rogers' father) lived to the age of eighty years and died in Burlington, Vt., while on a visit to his son. His children were: Benjamin, Moses Lester, Joseph, George, Rebecca, Abigail, Mary, Aseneth and a daughter who married an Emerson. George is still living at Melrose, Mass. Abigail (Prentice) Hart was an aunt of the famous George D. Prentice, editor of the Louisville,

(Kentucky) Journal, who was the son of her brother Joseph.

After marriage Anson Rogers settled on a farm at Middletown, Vt., and carried on the hat manufacturing business, besides conducting his farm with the aid of other employees. In 1846 he moved to Illinois, making the journey by way of the canal, lake steamer and stage-coach to Coral Township, McHenry County. Here he bought the present homestead of his brother Jedediah, who had entered the land but made little improvement. This embraced about fifty acres, besides a claim of about 160 acres. In addition to this Mr. Rogers owned fifty acres in Coral Township, eighty on the west side of Marengo and eighty acres more in Riley Township. He built the family residence in 1846-47, hauling the lumber, at that early day, by team from Chicago, including the handsome Grecian pillars of the roomy old-fashioned porch, which were fluted and finished in the cellar. The sash, doors, blinds and other wood-work were manufactured by hand. The residence was regarded as the best in McHenry County.

Originally a Jacksonian Democrat, Mr. Rogers became an earnest Republican, voting for Abraham Lincoln for President and assisting to secure the enlistment of troops to fill the quota of Illinois during the Civil War. Fraternally he was a member of the old Masonic Lodge at Middletown, Vt., and one of the early members of the Order at Marengo. He served as Justice of the Peace of his native town in Vermont, and was the first Supervisor of Coral Township, serving seven years. In religious belief he was a Methodist, and was the most liberal contributor to the erection of the first Methodist church in Marengo. Mrs. Rogers was a Congregationalist in her native State, of Vermont, but after coming to Illinois united with the Presbyterian church. Mr. Rogers was a man of sterling character and universally respected. His death occurred on the homestead at Marengo, in September, 1867.

Resuming the sketch of Ephraim H. Seward: He and his wife Maria Louise (Rogers), after their marriage in 1846, settled on the farm where he spent the remainder of his days, dying there July 20, 1896. He was one of the early dairy-men of McHenry County, and was one of the first to introduce the Durham short-horn

cattle in that part of the State. He was one of the founders of the Kishwaukee Farmer's Club, and for many years a prominent member of the McHenry County Agricultural Society, making the first exhibit from McHenry County at the State Fair in Springfield. Politically he was a staunch Republican and in religious faith a Presbyterian. He left his family, and the community in which he resided for half a century, the reputation of the public-spirited, high-minded and useful citizen.

Mr. and Mrs. Seward had eleven children, born as follows: Emma, April 20, 1848; Arabella, Dec. 25, 1849; Frank B., March 25, 1852; Henry Rogers, March 24, 1854; Charles X., Jan. 11, 1856; George W., July 3, 1858; Ephraim Ellsworth, April 27, 1861; Grace, April 25, 1863; Margaret Lizzie, Oct. 23, 1866; Susie Walker, Nov. 8, 1867; Richard Richardson, July 6, 1870. Of these the following are deceased; Emma, Nov. 19, 1851; Susie W., Jan. 3, 1871, and Henry Rogers, Sep. 10, 1891.

Mrs. Seward is still living in the enjoyment of all her faculties and the esteem of the community in which she has so long resided, of which she is one of the few surviving pioneers.

#### BURTON WRIGHT.

The history of many of the American pioneer families constitutes a large part of the history and growth of the United States. Families of early New England and Puritan stock trace their origin to Plymouth Rock and the great settlement of the English Puritans on Massachusetts Bay between 1630-40. Each generation extended a little farther back from the sea-coast, but it was not until after the Revolutionary War that the hardy sons and daughters of New England, of the third and fourth generations from their Puritan forefathers, settled as pioneers in the wilderness of Western New York.

Their sons and grandsons found these lands too crowded, and so they overflowed into Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois, and their descendants peopled the great West. The story of these migrations is of marvelous interest and its value to mankind cannot be estimated. Tradition of these events has been handed down from father to son in many families, and stories of these pioneer journeys and many striking incidents and fragments of history have been preserved to the present generation. In olden times a custom prevailed among the pioneers





Burton Wright



similar to that among the American Indians, and the gray-haired sire was accustomed to relate the incidents of his youth and the story of his forefathers to the children clustered about the fire on the big hearthstone of a cold winter night. This was a wise custom, and to it is due the preservation of much of the family history which is now gleaned from the aged man of today. Persons who are now growing old, look back with delight to the early pioneer scenes. They remember the natural, healthful life of their father's home, and the simple pleasures that were a source of so much enjoyment, and to them we turn, as to a well-filled book, for the knowledge that we gain of our ancestors and their modes of life.

The Wright family is of old New England Puritan stock, the founders of the family settling there in the early foundation of the colony. Ransom Wright, the father of Burton Wright, of Woodstock, Ill., was the son of a pioneer of Schoharie County, N. Y., and was born in that county March 11, 1802. He was a farmer and married there on Feb. 11, 1825, Elizabeth Thompson, born April 10, 1805, daughter of Peter and Eunice Thompson. Mr. Thompson was of the old New England family of that name, of English descent. He was a pioneer of Schoharie County and a soldier of the Revolutionary War. Later he became an early settler in Geauga County, Ohio, where he and his wife died—he having reached the venerable age of ninety years.

Two years after marriage, Mr. Wright and wife moved to Ohio and settled in Geauga County, where he cleared up a farm of ninety acres from the heavy timber. They were true pioneers, living in the wilderness and providing everything for themselves. Mrs. Wright spun and wove both flax and wool. She made linen and woollen cloth and cut and made all the clothing for the family. She was an expert spinner and weaver, and wove intricate patterns. A towel that she wove is still in the possession of Mrs. Burton Wright, the flax of which it was made, having been raised on the farm in Schoharie County, N. Y. After being pulled by hand and exposed to the elements to free the fiber from the stem, it was then thrashed by hand in small bundles, broken in a flax-brake and hatched in preparation for the small flax spinning-wheel and the linen thread woven on an old-fashioned hand-loom. The figures in this towel are small and of delicate pattern, but very distinct. The linen is

fine, firm and white, and one would suppose that it had been woven in a modern loom a few years ago, instead of by the hand of a young girl of sixteen, seventy-five years ago in her old home in New York State. This towel was in use for many years. In those days, besides making all the household linen, the housewives even manufactured their sewing thread, both white and colored. Besides making the clothing for the men and for the entire household, the women made the cloth for their own clothing, cut and made their own garments and everything they had to wear. When Ransom Wright settled on the Western Reserve in Ohio, he built a log house in which the family lived until he was able to build a frame house. The log house was built without nails, wooden pins and wooden hinges being used, while the roof was covered with oak "shakes" held in place by roof-poles. In such humble homes as these many of the founders of the best families of McHenry County were born and reared, and around these hearth-stones large families of sturdy children were brought up to an innocent and healthful life, which fitted them for the hard labor of the Western pioneer. Ransom Wright and family were all members of the Baptist church. In political opinions he was an old-line Whig. Mr. Wright was a member of the old Ohio State militia.

The children of this family were: Cyrus J., born Nov. 27, 1825; Louisa, born Sept. 20, 1827; Burton, born March 15, 1829; Leroy, born Dec. 20, 1830; Susan, born March 10, 1832; Elizabeth, born March 7, 1834; Columbus P., born Feb. 10, 1836; Charlotte R. and Ransom, born Aug. 20, 1838. Mr. Wright lived to be only thirty-seven years of age. Like many of the pioneer settlers he succumbed to the hardships incidental to the clearing up of the farm from the heavy timber and making a home in the wilderness. The immediate cause of his death was an accident which occurred while he was building his new frame house. He had quarried a large block of sand stone for his hearthstone, eight feet long, three feet wide and six inches thick—big enough for the old-fashioned fire-place of the pioneers, capable of receiving its huge back-log and fore-stick, with space at one end for a commodious brick oven. This hearthstone would barely go through the door of the house, and in trying to adjust it, Mr. Wright injured himself internally, from the effects of which he died April 19, 1839. His wife died Dec. 14, 1867.



Burton Wright was born March 15, 1829, gained a common school education in Geauga County and was brought up on the home farm. He can well remember the olden days on the Western Reserve in Ohio. The orchard set out many years ago by his father is still standing, and on a recent visit to the old homestead he found it not much changed. Mr. Wright married first time April, 1850, in Munson, Geauga County, Ohio, Sophia Byrum, daughter of Jephtha and Hannah (Beardsley) Byrum. She was a native of Geauga County, born in July, 1827. About 1853 he moved to Jo Daviess County, Ill., making the journey with a team to Cleveland, Ohio, where he shipped his team and goods to Detroit, Mich., thence traveling by way of Chicago to Rockford, Ill., which was as far as the railroad had been finished, from Rockford by team to Jo Daviess County. Leaving home on the first day of April, 1853, he reached his destination on April 7th. Here he bought eighty acres of partly improved land, on which he lived sixteen years, making additional purchases until he owned 320 acres. He was largely engaged in stock-raising and dealing in cattle. His first wife died Feb. 19, 1861, leaving children named: Rosalia M., born in Munson, Geauga County, Ohio, March 15, 1850; Myron J. and Byron J. (twins), born in Stockton, Jo Daviess County, Ill., Jan. 22, 1854. On March 8, 1863, Mr. Wright married as his second wife Huldah Coon, daughter of Daniel and Mary Warren Coon. In 1865 he moved with his family to McHenry County, where he bought 200 acres of land in Greenwood Township, and engaged successfully in raising and dealing in stock. He added to his land and now owns 300 acres in Greenwood Township. In 1899 he moved to Woodstock and bought a pleasant residence, where he still resides, surrounded with the comforts and luxuries of life, in strong contrast with the simple life of the log cabin home where he passed many happy days in childhood. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wright delight to relate incidents of pioneer days. Mr. Wright is one of the original members of the Republican party, having voted for its first Presidential candidate, John C. Fremont, and has steadily voted for every Republican Presidential candidate since. In Greenwood he was Trustee of the township many years. During the Civil War he was a stanch Union man and in Jo Daviess County was President of the Union League when the "Knights of the Golden Circle" threatened

trouble. He was also Captain in the Home Guards. The children of Burton and Huldah (Coon) Wright, born in Stockton, Jo Daviess County, Ill., were: Herbert Perry, born June 24, 1866, and Charlie Burton, born Nov. 21, 1868.

Daniel Coon, the father of Mrs. Wright, was born in Orleans County, N. Y., April 5, 1806, the son of Alexander and Amy (Saunders) Coon. The father, Alexander, was the son of of William Coon. The Coons were of Scotch descent. The name, originally spelled McCoon, is of Celtic origin. The "Mc" was dropped several generations ago. The Gazetteer of New York State says that William Coon, who was the great-grandfather of Mrs. Burton Wright, was the pastor of the First Baptist church at Berlin, Rensselaer County. This church was the denomination of Seventh Day Baptist (not Adventists), organized in December, 1781. William Coon died in 1800. He left a family of two sons—Alexander and Prentice—and six daughters, whose names are not known.

Alexander Coon married in 1793, Amy Saunders, of Berlin, who was of Holland-Dutch ancestry. This wife having died he afterwards married Huldah Hall, also of Berlin. Their oldest son, Asa, born Feb. 4, 1811, was the first white child born in Shelby, N. Y., and when a babe was rocked in a sap-trough.

In 1809 the family moved to Western New York and settled in Genesee County. In June, 1810, they removed to Shelby, Orleans County, N. Y. Their first removal to Genesee County was made with an ox-team. When they removed to Orleans County they made the journey with horses, leaving the main road at what was then called the Lewiston Road, running from Batavia, N. Y., to Lewiston, which is at the foot of the rapids in the Niagara River, and went north into an unbroken wilderness, five and one-half miles from any neighbor. Mr. Coon built a log house in five days and moved into it. It had neither nails, boards nor glass in its construction. The floor was made of split logs, hewn smoothly, and the roof was of bark. The family slept in the wagons until the house was built. Mr. Coon brought with him a pillow case full of apple seeds, and from these sprung the first apple trees in that part of Western New York. In the time of the War of 1812 the settlers became much alarmed for their safety, but there was no real danger. The pioneers of that early date saw many hardships, the year of 1816 being noted as the cold



*Huldah Leona Wright*





season when provisions were very scarce and high.

In February, 1817, Alexander Coon was killed by a tree falling on him, at the age of forty-three years. He was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist church. Several of his brothers were ministers in this church and the family was noted for high standard of morality. Daniel Coon, father of Mrs. Wright, lived with his brother, Alexander, after his father's death, until 1824. In 1830 he married in Chenango County, N. Y., Mary Warren, born in Pitcher, Chenango County, daughter of Eli and Marian (Bolster) Warren. Eli Warren was born in Vermont and was of Scotch descent from an old New England Puritan family, probably of the same original stock as Dr. Joseph Warren, the patriot who fell at Bunker Hill. Eli Warren was a farmer and served as a teamster in the War of 1812. He was killed by a runaway team in 1823 at Pompey Hill, N. Y. He was the son of Major Warren, who served under Washington in the Revolutionary War and died at Brattleboro, Vt., Dec. 10, 1823. His Christian name and his title were the same—Major.

Daniel Coon and wife settled after marriage for a short time at Erie, Penn., and then he removed to Michigan, where he lived but a short time; then he moved to Ohio and settled in Lykens, Crawford County, about 1833 or '34. He cleared up a farm from the heavy timber in this region, his nearest neighbor being five miles distant. He died Oct. 15, 1847, at the age of forty-one years from the effects of hard work and exposure in clearing his land. He and his wife were members of the Free Will Baptist church, in which he was a deacon. The children of Daniel and Mary (Warren) Coon were: Cordelia D., Warren D., Huldah (Mrs. Wright), William, Alexander, Malinda M. and Helen Eliza. After the death of Mr. Coon, Mrs. Coon married as her second husband, at Lykens, Ohio, Perry R. Black, and their children were: Anna E., Amanda J. and Eugene C. Mr. Black removed to Jo Daviess County, Ill., and there died, May 15, 1891, aged ninety-one years. He was a man of high character and proved himself a kind father to the Coon children. Mrs. Black (the mother of Mrs. Burton Wright) died in Jo Daviess County, Dec. 2, 1894. Like Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Coon was a famous spinner and weaver of both linen and wool, making beautiful coverlets and fine cloth for her family. A fine lace collar of her delicate handicraft is carefully preserved by her

daughter, Mrs. Burton Wright. She could make her own patterns, which were called "drafts," and weave by them. She had a natural taste for the beautiful, was a lover of flowers and fine fancy work, and in her woodland home cultivated flowers and shrubs. When she first settled in the forest, she went to a neighbor's five miles distant, carrying her young child, and obtained a peony root, then a rare flower, and planted it in her garden. From this peony root many others have been taken, and her descendants still preserve them with pride. Mrs. Burton Wright has a fine plant of this species from the original root. When Mr. Coon first settled in the timber, he was obliged to cut away the surrounding trees to keep them from falling on his log cabin. This cabin was a primitive structure, having no floor for some time.

#### AMOS D. WHITING.

An early settler and one of those who crossed the great plains to California, in 1850, in the search for gold, is Amos D. Whiting, still living at Nunda, McHenry County. Mr. Whiting was born in Johnson, Lamoille County, Vt., July 27, 1824, the son of Zachariah and Lucinda (Dodge) Whiting. The latter was of Scotch and Puritan stock from Connecticut—his father's name being Nathaniel. Zachariah Whiting, born Sept. 25, 1789, went to Vermont in early manhood and, when about twenty-six years of age, was married to Lucinda Dodge, born Feb. 13, 1800, the daughter of Amos Dodge. Mr. Whiting was a soldier of the Revolution and took part in the expedition against the British on Lake Champlain. At an early day he opened up a farm in the woods of Lamoille County, Vt., became one of the most substantial citizens, and spent his remaining days there, dying at Johnson, Vt., Oct. 31, 1861, aged seventy-two years. His children were: Hannah, Freeman, Amos D., Zachariah, Almon Sarah and Arthur. Mr. and Mrs. Whiting were members of the Baptist church. Mrs. Whiting died Dec. 22, 1872, aged seventy-two years.

Amos D. Whiting received an ordinary common school education, took a brief course in an academy and, after being trained as a farmer, at the age of twenty-one years, went to Massachusetts, where he worked for a year in a stone quarry. In April, 1847, in company with his older brother, Freeman, he came to Illinois, the latter having visited the State once before. They made the journey from Burling-

ton, Vt., to Whitehall, N. Y., by way of Lake Champlain, then by the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and by steamer around the lakes to Waukegan, Ill.—the journey occupying about three weeks. During the following season Mr. Whiting worked on a farm for John W. Smith, the pioneer and early merchant of McHenry County. In the fall of 1847 the brothers returned to Vermont and, during the next spring, made maple-sugar in a camp near their home. Returning to Illinois in the spring of 1848, Mr. Whiting resumed work with Mr. Smith, but later bought two horses and a peddler's wagon, with which he made extensive trips through Northern Illinois and Wisconsin, selling goods to the farmers. In 1850, in company with a party consisting, besides himself, of John W. Smith, Joshua Chase and Thomas Heath—the latter a young man of nineteen—he made the trip overland to California. The party left Ringwood April 18 with a wagon and four-horse team for Council Bluffs, then the starting point for many of the overland trains. After a few days' stop at Council Bluffs to complete their outfit, they started with a train of some sixty wagons, with a view to mutual protection. This was soon found to be too large, and was broken up into smaller bands. As they traveled along the great trail, other trains of canvas-covered wagons were almost always in sight. The Indians often came into camp to beg and were continually committing thefts and other depredations. In the Black Hills they were hostile, and many of the adventurers were killed. The party started out with an abundance of provisions, and at first fared well, but before reaching their destination these were well nigh exhausted. In the meantime many other "trailers" came to them in a destitute condition and were always supplied with food. By the time they had reached the Sierra Nevada Mountains their teams were worn out, and, owing to the rough character of the country, it was found necessary to abandon their wagon. This was left standing by the roadside, such supplies as could be carried being packed on the horses, and the remainder of the journey made on foot. Hundreds of wagons were passed on the way which had been abandoned by their owners in a similar manner, while dead horses and mules were so numerous that the wolves and cayotes could not devour them all. The air was so pure in the mountains that dead animals dried up instead of decaying. Mr. Whiting passed a team

of grey horses which, having been set up on their feet, looked as if still alive. Their train reached Weaversville in the California mining region, Aug. 2, 1850. They already began to meet teams which came out with food supplies, and they bought a small amount of flour at \$1 per pound. At Weaversville they took up a placer claim and commenced mining, doing fairly well. Later they removed to the American River, where they worked a placer claim about three months. Mr. Whiting next went to Calaveras County, where he mined for a time at Mokelumne Hill with satisfactory results. He subsequently joined with others in the erection of a large hotel at Camp Seco. This having been destroyed by fire just before completion, was immediately rebuilt and then sold out. He was afterwards engaged for a time in the grocery trade, and still later in mining on the Mokelumne River. In 1860 Mr. Whiting returned to the States by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York, en route visiting his native State of Vermont, where he was married, March 21, 1860, to Lois Bassett, who was born at Eden, Vt., Nov. 10, 1842, the daughter of George and Achsa (Adams) Bassett.

Both the Bassetts and Adamses were of Puritan and Colonial stock from Massachusetts and of English descent, Massa Bassett, the grandfather of Mrs. Whiting, being a patriot soldier of the Revolution who fought at the battle of Bunker Hill. He was a farmer and pioneer settler at Eden, Vt., where he opened a farm in the woods and became a prominent citizen and Justice of the Peace. He and his wife were, at first, members of the Congregational church, but afterwards became Quakers. He died between 1860 and 1864, aged about eighty years, leaving the following named children: Samuel, Lucinda, Hiram, George, Catherine, Cynthia and Julia. George Bassett, the son, was born Feb. 14, 1810, received a common school education, became a farmer, and was married Sept. 26, 1833, at Eden, Vt., to Achsa Adams, born Oct. 25, 1814, daughter of Joseph and Rhoda Adams. Joshua Adams, the father of Joseph, belonged to the Massachusetts family of that name which has produced so many distinguished men. He was also a pioneer farmer of Vermont. The children of this family remembered were Joseph, Adolphus, Diana and Rhoda. The Adamses were Methodists. George Bassett, the father of Mrs. Whiting, was a farmer, held the office of Jus-



tice of the Peace and was an influential citizen. His wife was a Congregationalist. Their children were: Joseph M., born Aug. 31, 1834; Cynthia, born Nov. 21, 1836; William, born Aug. 24, 1838; Lois, born Nov. 10, 1842; Lucius Hiram, born July 10, 1853. Mr. Bassett died Jan. 4, 1878, aged nearly sixty-eight years, and his wife Aug. 11, 1871.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Whiting came direct to Ringwood, McHenry County, and soon located in the town of McHenry, where he engaged in business as a stock and grain dealer, also kept a meat market. After living here about eight years, in company with his brother Freeman he bought a farm of about 400 acres, one and one-half miles south of McHenry, and there he conducted a prosperous business as a farmer until 1895, when he retired, settling in Nunda, where he had erected a pleasant residence. In politics he is a Democrat; has held the offices of Road Commissioner, School Trustee and Township Supervisor. The zeal he has manifested in behalf of good schools and good roads afford evidence of his public spirit. The children of the family are: Cynthia, born Jan. 18, 1861; William E., born April 17, 1868; Bell, born Sep. 5, 1872; Lois D., born April 27, 1879, and Elizabeth born Sept. 15, 1883. Mr. Whiting still owns a fine farm of 280 acres. His enterprise and business energy are indicated in the record of a busy life.

#### ADELBERT S. WRIGHT.

The subject of this biography is pre-eminently a self-made man, whose life-history illustrates, in a marked degree, what may be accomplished by native force of character. Beginning life without capital or influential friends, he has steadily worked his way to the front, overcoming every obstacle until success smiled upon his efforts. By strict honesty and adherence to correct business principles, and the exercise of sound discretion and good judgment, he has won universal confidence, and now stands a fair type of American energy and thrift.

Adelbert S. Wright was born in Pompey, New York, Feb. 14, 1847, the son of Lysander and Caroline (Seely) Wright. The Wrights are of New England and Puritan ancestry, and were early settlers of New York State, where the father, Lysander Wright, was born. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wright died in middle age, the mother when Adelbert was but nine, and the

father when he was thirteen years of age. Being so early left an orphan, he has but a slight knowledge of his parents, and his school days were limited to about two years in the district school. When about eight years old he began to work on a farm near Pompey, N. Y., and from that time on supported himself, beginning at that early age to provide himself with clothing. In 1861 he engaged as a clerk in a drug-store at Manlius, N. Y., and remained there two years, when in December, 1863, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Twenty-second New York Cavalry, to serve three years in the Civil War. Early in the service he was taken sick with a severe case of typhoid fever, and was in the hospital at Washington, D. C., three months, and narrowly escaped death. When partially recovered, he was sent to Fort Schuyler, N. Y., and placed in charge of the medical department of the McDougal General Hospital, where he had charge of a large and valuable stock of medical supplies. This was a very important and responsible position for so young a man, as Mr. Wright was then but about seventeen years of age. He was offered the appointment of Hospital Steward, but declined as he did not wish to remain in the regular service as required. Mr. Wright rejoined his regiment and was in active service in the Shenandoah Valley until August, 1865, the time of his discharge. In January, 1866, he came to Woodstock and entered the drug store of W. P. Adams, his former employer at Manlius. In 1869 Mr. Wright formed a partnership with John S. Wheat, and in 1880 commenced business for himself, in which he has been very successful and enjoys the reputation of being one of the most skillful and reliable druggists in McHenry County.

For twelve years Mr. Wright was Secretary of the McHenry County Agricultural Association, and proved himself not only an efficient official, but a man of great executive ability. When he became connected with the County Fair, he found that the interests of the people had been greatly lessened, that matters were in a generally disrupted condition, and the buildings were becoming dilapidated. Always determined and energetic, Mr. Wright's first endeavor was to interest the people of the county in the fair. To do this he not only adopted all the best measures of expert fair managers, but devised a great many unique attractions. He appealed to every farmer with



whom he came in contact to provide something for exhibition at the fair, and to attend it personally with their friends and families. Mr. Wright, having for several years taken an active part in politics, had a great many influential friends and acquaintances among the foremost politicians and public men of the day, and was thus able to induce many of the most prominent men to visit the fair and address the people on the leading questions of the day. He made it non-partisan in order to give all parties an opportunity, and selected a day for each party, and, in this manner, large numbers of people were attracted to hear these eminent men, of whom the following are a few: Gen. John A. Logan, James Longstreet (the famous Confederate General), Governors Cullom and Oglesby, and Fifield (of Wisconsin), Carter Harrison, Gen. John C. Black and Hon. E. B. Washburn. These names were among the distinguished guests of the society from 1880 to 1887. Since 1887 the people have had the pleasure of hearing such men as Hon. Samuel J. Randall, of Pennsylvania; Postmaster General A. E. Stevenson; Hon. William M. Springer; Hon. Joseph Fifer; Gen. John M. Palmer; Ex-Governor St. John, of Kansas, and many other famous men. It was a grand opportunity for both old and young to be able to see and hear these great leaders, and the occasions were fully appreciated by the patrons. That such eminent men could be induced to visit a "County Fair," well illustrates Mr. Wright's high standing and wide influence with the leading men of the day. During his term of office as Secretary, the County Fair was raised from a society of little importance to one of the ideal County Fairs of the State, and became not only a source of pleasure and recreation to the people, but an educational factor of intrinsic worth. Politically Mr. Wright has been a Republican from his earliest years, and cast his first vote for the great soldier and statesman, Gen. U. S. Grant. His vote has also helped Presidents Garfield, Harrison and McKinley to the Presidential chair, a record of which he is justly proud. Mr. Wright has worked with great zeal and efficiency for the success of his party, and his efforts have been widely recognized by the leaders and founders of republican thought. In 1889 Mr. Wright was appointed Penitentiary Commissioner by Gov. Fifer, and served four years. During Gov. Tanner's administration, he was President of the Board of Trustees of

the Northern Illinois Hospital for the Insane at Elgin. In the early days of Gov. Richard Yates' administration, Mr. Wright received an appointment on the Board of Trustees of the Soldiers' Home at Normal, Ill., but later, at the request of Gov. Yates, accepted an appointment as a member of the State Board of Public Charities, which he still holds. In all of these positions he has proved himself a capable official and of great executive ability. He is a member of the G. A. R., his home Post being No. 108, Woodstock, in which he has held all the important offices, and has also served four times as a member of the Council of Administration of the Department of Illinois. Fraternally Mr. Wright is a Mason. His lodges are Blue Lodge and Calvary Commandery, Woodstock. He has been twice married, first in 1869 to Cora E. Tew, of Woodstock, who died in 1875, leaving two sons: Verne A., now a successful lawyer and a graduate of the law department of the University of Michigan, and Channing N., a business man representing large interests in Arizona. Mr. Wright's second marriage was in McHenry, Sept. 12, 1877, with Olive W. Owen, and they are the parents of Claribel and A. S. Wright, Jr. Mrs. Wright is a prominent church worker, a lady devoted to all good causes, and highly esteemed in Woodstock. The daughter Claribel, is a skillful violiniste. She was married in 1902 to William P. Hoy, of Woodstock.

Mr. Wright has achieved a wide reputation by his acquaintance with public men, and his ability to enlist their interest and co-operation in any cause he may happen to be advocating. Personally, he numbers many friends throughout the State. He is a fine example of a self-made man, beginning to care for himself at so early an age, he hardly remembers being cared for by others. He has never forgotten that he was once a poor boy working on a farm, and that the first overcoat he ever wore was the "army blue" given to him by Uncle Sam.

Like most self-made men, Mr. Wright has worked himself up by his determined character and straight-forward conduct, and a feeling that if he was good enough to defend the Union, that he was good enough to be the peer of any man in the State.

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#### JAMES WATSON.

The family of Watson, of which James Watson, a pioneer of McHenry County, Ill., and a venerable and respected resident of Wood-



*James Watson*







*Mrs E. W. Barker*



stock, Ill., is a representative, is descended from early English stock. Lotos Watson, father of James Watson, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., sometime during the period of the Revolutionary War, a son of Captain Watson, who saw active service in the British army during that struggle. Lotos Watson, who was a farmer, married Olive Arnold, a native of Rhode Island, and located at Junius, Seneca County, N. Y., whence he removed to Onondaga County, N. Y., where he cleared and improved a farm and died aged about fifty-three years. For some time he was a faithful member of the Methodist church. His widow subsequently married a man named Griffith, moved to Wisconsin some time after 1840, and died in Greenwood, Ill., in her seventy-fifth year. The children of Lotos and Olive (Arnold) Watson were named Stephen, Alanson, Samuel, Mary Ann, Jane, Susan and Hannah.

James Watson was born at Lysander, Onondaga County, N. Y., April 20, 1818, and in his boyhood attended the common schools and was given a practical education in farming, which involved a good deal of hard work. In 1836, when eighteen years of age, he came to Cook County, Ill., by way of Buffalo, thence to Detroit by steamer, on foot to Kalamazoo, Mich., by stage to St. Joseph, and across Lake Michigan to Chicago in a small sailing-vessel. His brother, Alanson, had settled the year before at Meacham's Grove (now Bloomingdale), near the Cook County and Du Page County line, and James remained under his roof until the last of November, 1837, when, in company with Alfred Stone and others, he came to McHenry County. Stone settled on Queen Ann Prairie, afterward included in Greenwood Township. Others of the party were Almon Stone and family, including his father, John Stone, and wife and Luther Finch and wife who was Mr. Watson's sister Mary Ann. Mr. Watson and Luther Finch bought a claim of 320 acres, partly timbered and partly prairie land, within the present limits of Greenwood Township, and built upon it a one-story-and-garret log house; which did not contain a nail, and the loft of which was reached by a ladder made by driving pegs into logs. Its chimney was constructed of sticks and mud, and its "s'ake" roof was held on with poles. The next year Mr. Watson and Mr. Finch divided their land, of which Mr. Watson received 139½

acres, and for the next seven years he devoted himself to its improvement with such success that he decided to get married and settle upon it permanently. He finally acquired 218 acres of land, upon which he built an attractive residence which was burned in 1890, but immediately replaced by another. Mr. Watson has never been an office-seeker, but has been a public-spirited man who has favored good schools and good roads, and was one of the early members of the Township School Board. He cast his first vote for William Henry Harrison in the celebrated log-cabin and hard-cider campaign of 1840. He became a strong anti-slavery man and voted for Birney, later for Fremont and Lincoln, and has since been a consistent Republican. He is so liberal in his religious views that he has never identified himself with any church.

December 20, 1846, Mr. Watson was married in the Virginia Settlement, by Rev. R. R. Whittier, to Louisa Button, born at Hunt's Hollow, N. Y., daughter of David and Permelia (Lombard) Button. Louisa Button was well educated, receiving her educational training in the Mt. Morris Seminary, N. Y., and taught several terms of school in that State. Coming to Illinois when a young woman, she taught two terms in Dorr Township, McHenry County, where she was regarded as a woman of superior attainments and sound judgment. David Button, son of Gideon and Polly (Stone) Button, became a farmer in New York State and died there. His children were named Joseph C, Luceba, Lucretia, Louisa, Permelia, Delva M. and Fanny. The last mentioned died before the family left New York State. Sometime after the death of her husband, Mrs. Button married a Mr. Doty, and they became pioneers of Ridgefield Township, McHenry County, where Mr. Doty died. Mrs. Doty died in Elgin, Ill., in her ninety-fifth year. They had two daughters named Helen and Catherine. James and Louisa (Button) Watson have had children named as follows: Olive Permelia, born in Greenwood Township, Oct. 3, 1847; an infant son un-named, who was born and died in Greenwood Township, 1850; Orville Clark, born March 24, 1853, and Nelda Adelia, born in Greenwood Township, Sept. 14, 1856. Mr. Watson gave all his children a good education and his daughters Olive and Nelda were successful teachers in the public schools of McHenry County. Mrs. Watson was born



April 19, 1823, and died in Greenwood Township, Jan. 5, 1857. Her daughter, Nelda A., died November, 1898.

Mr. Watson assisted to organize Greenwood Township and was personally acquainted with its pioneers. Among them was Louis Boone, of the Boone family of Kentucky, of which Daniel Boone was a member, who had settled there in the spring of 1837, shortly after David, John and William McCollum had located near by on the edge of McHenry Township. Boone and the head of the McCollum family disagreed over a land-claim and several times came to blows. Boone, who was a powerful man, tore down the log cabin McCollum had built on the land in question, cut every log in two and whipped a man who assisted in building it. Then McCollum organized a party of friends and they waylaid Boone and gave him a good drubbing, but he finally maintained his claim of the land in the courts. Mr. Watson was summoned by Sheriff Walkup to attend the first session of the Circuit Court in McHenry County, held in the loft of Brown's log tavern. Doctor Cornish of Algonquin was the clerk and Mr. Watson states that, not being an experienced crier, he opened the court by yelling from the door of the cabin: "O, yes! O, yes! O, yes! Know all men that the honorable Circuit Court is now open for business!" Litigation between Boone and the McCollums occupied the attention of the court, and Mr. Spring, an old lawyer of Chicago, represented Boone, and Colonel Strode, also of Chicago, represented the McCollums. After that, Boone and the McCollums had further fights. One of the McCollums secured a judgment of eighty dollars and costs against Boone for assault, and Boone secured judgments in the same amount against each of the three McCollums on the same charge. Troubles like those between Boone and McCollum were common among the pioneers, and before courts were generally established, questions at issue were frequently argued with the bare knuckles.

December 12, 1883, Mr. Watson was married, in Watonwan County, Minn., to Emeline Whitely McCune, who was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, June 25, 1839, a daughter of James and Hannah M. (Kirkwood) McCune. James McCune was born in Pennsylvania in 1792, a son of Thomas and Mary (Brady) McCune. Thomas McCune was born in Maryland, a son of James McCune, a prominent member

of a colonial family of note. James McCune, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Watson, was a wealthy farmer and allied himself with other patriots of Maryland on the side of the Colonies before and during the Revolutionary War. At one time he entertained Washington and his staff, and he supplied horses and much beef and other provender to the patriot army and, in a general way, aided the cause to such an extent that when, at the end of the war, the continental money he had received from the Government was not redeemed, he was practically ruined. His son Thomas was a patriot soldier and fought at Brandywine. In another engagement he and three others were surrounded by British and cut their way out most gallantly. This exploit led to his promotion to a captaincy, and he served during the remainder of the war under Washington's immediate command. After the Revolution, James and Thomas McCune settled in Alleghany County, Penn. In 1795 the latter became a pioneer in Jefferson County, Ohio, where he acquired a quarter section of land which he redeemed from the forest and improved. He had assisted to capture ships from the British and was entitled to prize money, but they assigned their claims in favor of Washington's army by unanimous vote. A pension of five dollars a month was granted him for his services during the Revolutionary War, but he died in Jefferson County, Ohio, after the first payment had been made. He married, in Pennsylvania, Mary Brady, a cousin of Brady, the famous Indian fighter, and they had children named: Mary, Sarah, Martha, James, Elizabeth, Joseph and William. James McCune, Mrs. Watson's father, was born in Alleghany County, Penn., May 30, 1792. When he was five years old he went to Jefferson County, Ohio, with his father's family, walking most of the way and helping drive cattle. He lived on a portion of his father's land in Ohio fifty-two years. In April 1823, he married Hannah Maria Kirkwood, daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Gillispie) Kirkwood, who was born in Belmont County, Ohio, in February, 1808. The Kirkwoods and Gillispies were of Scotch-English stock. The representatives of both families settled early in Maryland, where they were slave-holders. It is said that they liberated their slaves and gave each one \$100 in money. Joseph Kirkwood was a prominent pioneer farmer of Jefferson County, Ohio, where he died leaving a valuable estate. The children of James and



*Mrs. Louisa Button Watson.*





Hannah Maria (Kirkwood) McCune were named: Robert K., Thomas, Joseph K., Mary Brady, Elizabeth K., William W., Sarah J., Emeline Whitely, George G., Catherine Ann, Josephine K. and Adeline G. Joseph K., died at the age of twenty, unmarried. James McCune enlisted three times for service in the War of 1812, and was rejected because more soldiers were not needed. In his young manhood he made three trips down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans, to dispose of produce and walked back, consuming several weeks in the journey. In April, 1849, he moved from Jefferson County, Ohio, to Fond du Lac County, Wis., where he settled on a 200-acre farm, one and a half miles south of Ceresco (now Ripon), which he improved, and on which he died, April 30, 1875. He was an original pioneer, his land being entirely wild except forty acres which had been broken. He built the first school house on Green Lake Prairie. This was a frame building, and the teacher was hired at Mr. McCune's expense. Mrs. Emeline W. Watson was educated at Ripon College, Wis., and was a teacher for sometime in Dodge County, Wis.

#### COLUMBUS WALLACE.

The venerable citizen of Crystal Lake Township, McHenry County, Ill., whose name appears above, is one of the few men in this part of the county who are in possession of their original homesteads on which they located when they came to Northeastern Illinois as pioneers. His ancestors were of that famous Highland Clan of Scotland which produced William Wallace, the patriot. According to tradition three Wallace brothers of that historic family, all Puritans, settled in New England in the colonial period. William Wallace, a descendant of one of the three emigrants, was a farmer and carpenter and lived in Northern Vermont. His son William, who also became a farmer and carpenter, was born in Northern Vermont and was married, at Pawlet, to Miss Elizabeth Penfield, and they were the parents of Columbus Wallace, of Crystal Lake Township, and of other children named: William Albert, Franklin, Elizabeth and Sarah. William Wallace died at Pawlet aged about seventy-seven years. Elizabeth (Penfield) Wallace was a member of the Congregational church, and died at the old home of the family at Pawlet.

Columbus Wallace was born at Pawlet, Rut-

land County, Vt., Oct. 23, 1812, educated in the common schools, reared a farmer and eventually learned the harness maker's trade. He went to New York State in 1827, living at Whitehall and at Fort Ann until 1837, when he came to Illinois. His brother Franklin, who was born at Pawlet, Vt., in 1804, came to Crystal Lake in the spring of 1837, and located a land-claim there, after which he went back East to his old home. When he returned later in the same year, Columbus accompanied him. The journey was made by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo and thence by steamer to Chicago. From Chicago to Crystal Lake, a two days' journey, Mr. Wallace walked, arriving at his destination Nov. 1, 1837. The settlement contained a one-story log cabin and three log shanties. In the cabin, Beman Crandall, who had been the first settler there in 1835, kept a backwoods tavern, Isaac King and his brother lived in one of the shanties, and Abner Beardsley in the third. Mr. Wallace lived for a time with Beman Crandall. He at once located a claim of 340 acres on three different pieces of land and began to make rails with which to fence in his new possessions. He bought the right to his claim from Crandall, who had bought his right to this and other property from Christopher Walkup, who had laid claim to it more than two years before, as a part of a tract of land four miles long and two miles wide, extending from his settlement near Ridgefield to Crystal Lake. There was an unwritten law among the pioneers that late settlers should purchase "rights" of the first comer, although this gave them no legal right to the land, and in some instances those who had not made such provision against trouble were driven out of the settlements. Mr. Wallace's investment in this way was two hundred dollars. In the spring of 1838 he built a log cabin on his claim. The walls were of round logs, it was roofed with shaved oak shingles, had small glass windows, and the loft was accessible by means of rude stairs. As the years went by he gradually developed a productive farm.

Mr. Wallace married Hannah (Beardsley) Wallace in November, 1849. His wife, who was the daughter of Abner and Hannah (Wornden) Beardsley and the widow of his brother Franklin, was born at Alexander, N. Y., Feb. 3, 1818, and had borne his brother twins named Mary and Sarah. Franklin Wallace, who had been associated with Columbus in the work of

improvement at Crystal Lake, had died Feb. log cabin, which has been described, until Mr. 22, 1845. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace lived in the Wallace built a substantial cobble-stone house, the first of the kind in the county, which is yet in a good state of preservation. The children of Columbus and Hannah (Beardsley) Wallace are: Ada, Alice, Carrie, William B., named in the order of their birth. Mrs. Wallace died May 31, 1894. Since boyhood, Mr. Wallace has been, until in years comparatively recent, a very hard worker, and his whole career has been dominated by a strong mind. Although now ninety-one years old, he still retains his mental faculties and his memory in a remarkable degree for one of his years. He likes to talk about the pioneer days and about the old political campaigns in which the Whigs were a factor. He voted the Whig ticket in those days and when, in 1856, the new-born Republican party named John C. Fremont as its candidate for the Presidency, he voted for him, and four years later for Lincoln, and has voted for every subsequent Republican nominee for the Presidency. His industry and thrift have not gone unrewarded, and he owns about 100 acres as of good farm land as his neighborhood affords.

#### LEVI A. WATERMAN.

The family of this honored and esteemed citizen of McHenry County is of English origin, its original seat being in Wales, and it won distinction both in the struggle for American independence and in the War of 1812, when the young republic appealed to the patriotism of her sons to maintain her honor and prestige as a Nation. According to well-authenticated tradition, seven brothers came from England to the colonies early in the seventeenth century. Of these three settled in New York, two in Massachusetts, and two in Connecticut. One held a commission in the British army under Queen Elizabeth, and this document, of priceless historic value, is yet treasured as an heirloom by his posterity. Another married the daughter of the man who struck off the original "Pine Tree Shilling," the first coin issued in America. Following down the line of descent from these early days, the genealogist finds the name of Aruna Waterman, the grandfather of Levi A., who was a Commissary in the army of the Revolution. His birthplace was Norwich, Conn., and it was there that he married, his wife's maiden patronymic being Hyde

Two of his sons, Thomas and Asa, the latter the father of the gentleman who is the subject of this narrative, were soldiers in the War of 1812, Thomas taking part in the battle of Plattsburg. Believing that the prospects of success were better for a farmer in the North, Aruna Waterman disposed of his Connecticut property, and, in 1800, started for what is now Lamoille, but was then a part of Franklin County, Vt. He made the journey on a sled with a yoke of oxen and a team of horses, and in a hogshead, covered by a nondescript assortment miscellaneous material, he took with him four thousand Spanish milled dollars. On reaching his point of destination he bought a partly-cleared farm of 415 acres, on which he erected a saw and grist-mill, his location being in the town of Johnson. Here he held the office of Justice of the Peace for many years. He died in 1837, after attaining the advanced age of eighty-nine years, leaving a handsome estate to be divided among his children.

Asa, the son of Aruna and the father of Levi A. Waterman, was born in Norwich, Conn., Dec. 2, 1772. He accompanied the family to Vermont in 1800, and there married Anna, a daughter of John McConnell, for whose family the village of McConnell's Falls is named. He inherited 150 acres of land from his father, and it was here that he passed the remainder of his life, his farm being now the site of the village just named. He served with gallantry during the War of 1812. He was a Universalist in religious belief, and in politics, first an "old-line" Whig, and later a Republican, voting for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. After the death of his first wife he married Anna Dodge, a native of New Hampshire. He fell asleep in 1860, after passing life's eighty-eighth milestone. His children by his first marriage were: Erastus, Aruna and Harvey; by the second, Levi, Sanford and Norman.

Levi A. Waterman, who was the eldest son by the marriage of his father, Asa Waterman, with Anna Dodge, was born in Lamoille County, Vt., Oct. 26, 1818. His early years were spent much after the fashion of other farmers' sons of his day and generation. A term, once or twice a year, in the district school and hard work upon the farm, made up his boyhood and youth. Grass was mowed with a scythe, while grain was cut with a sickle and threshed with a flail.

On November 25, 1851, he was married, at Johnson, Vt., to Hannah D. Whiting, whose



L. A. Whitman







*Mrs L A Waterman*





parents were Zachariah and Lucinda (Dodge) Whiting. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Waterman settled on his paternal homestead, and there their four children were born—Walter W., Anna, Lucinda and Howard. For nearly a quarter of a century they lived upon the old farm, adding to it, from time to time, through thrift, good management and wise investment, until in 1865 it embraced 200 acres.

In 1865 they resolved to seek fortune in what was to them a new, untried country. The fertile prairies of Illinois, with their nodding grass and rich, well-watered soil, beckoned to them, and in that year they removed from the mountains of Vermont to the level plains of the Prairie State, settling in McHenry Township, two miles northeast of Ringwood, where Mr. Waterman purchased a farm of 180 acres. This property he has constantly improved, erecting a fine residence upon it, and making it one of the best and most valuable farms in the township. In 1886, having reached the age of sixty-eight years, he resolved to take the rest to which his long, well-spent life richly entitled him. In that year he retired from active toil, and removed with the wife of his youth to Ringwood. There, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years, he is passing his declining years, looking back upon the past without regret and forward to the future without fear.

#### EUGENE STRODE WHEELER.

Eugene S. Wheeler was born July 1, 1848, in Warrenville, Dupage County, Ill., where his father was then pastor of the Baptist church. He was brought by his parents to McHenry the following March, and the family lived for several years in a frame house built of oak lumber. His father owned 450 acres of land, now known as the Wheeler homestead, for which he paid \$12 an acre. He borrowed money at twenty-five per cent interest to pay for this land, and was seventeen years in paying the debt. For several years he made but few improvements. In addition to this land he owned 160 acres north of Waukegan, forty acres north of Johnsburg, and a large part of what is now called the Ladd farm, near Ringwood. The present residence on the Joel Wheeler homestead was built in 1852, the brick being made in McHenry by Smith Covey, being the first manufactured in that place.

Eugene Wheeler attended school at old McHenry in an old oak-frame school-house near the Universalist church, which was afterwards

used as a town-house, later as a gun-smith shop, and was torn down in 1889, being then owned by the widow Zents. His teacher was Frances Wheeler, daughter of Cristy G. Wheeler, and among the pupils were Rollin Waite, present Postmaster of McHenry, Henry Whiteman, Elliot and Hinton Wheeler, Sallie Owen and the Hankins boys, George, Albert and Jeff, who later became noted residents of Chicago. In pioneer times their father was a harness-maker at McHenry and crossed the plains to California in the early days of the gold excitement. Later Mr. Wheeler attended a select school one year at McHenry, kept by a Mr. Case and his sister, and afterwards spent two school years at the Marengo school, after which he attended the McHenry High School. He thus received a fair education, and has always been interested in and taken an active part in educational matters, having been a member of the School Board for ten years and a member of the first Board of Education in McHenry. His father, Elder Joel Wheeler, was a practical farmer, who worked hard on the farm and preached at different places in log school-houses on Sunday; the pioneers coming to the meetings from far and wide in their carts drawn by oxen. Mr. Wheeler has been known to preach at Algonquin in the morning, Dundee in the afternoon, and at some log dwelling in the evening, driving home many miles late at night. He studied his sermons while driving on the road, using no manuscript but speaking extemporaneously. His son, Eugene, began to drive about with his father when but a small boy. Elder Wheeler blazed the line for a wagon-road from Lily Lake to Wauconda, which afterwards became an established highway. Rev. Wheeler's politics were Democratic. He was married three times, first to Julia A. Elliott of New Hampshire. Their children were: Elliott, Hinton and George B. His first wife having died, he was married at Waukegan, Ill., to Mary J. Freeman, who was born in New York State, May 26, 1828, daughter of Rev. Peter Freeman, who, in company with Rev. Joel Wheeler, organized the first Baptist church in Waukegan. By this marriage there were two children, Alva and Eugene S. Mrs. Wheeler died in October, 1860. Rev. Wheeler married as his third wife, Jan. 18, 1869, Eliza Dunn (Berry) Colbath, of Maine. She was a widow (nee Berry), daughter of Levi and Mary (Hammond) Berry.

Levi Berry was born in Maine of Scotch and

English parentage. He was a hatter by trade, but, in later years, engaged in the lumber business. He married Mary Hammond and lived in Smyrna, Me., where he kept a tavern, but still attended to his interests in the lumber business, and owned a farm. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Berry are: Dr. Thaddeus C. S., Jane (Mrs. Winslow), Peleg H., Hon. Andrew J. (member of the Illinois Legislature), Eliza D., Samuel H., Belle (Mrs. Adams) and Levi H.

Eugene S. Wheeler was married March 1, 1873, at the old homestead in McHenry, to Luella May Colbath, born at Smyrna, Me., Dec. 15, 1853, daughter of Ivory and Eliza D. (Berry) Colbath.

Mrs. Wheeler is well educated, having attended public school at Holton, Fairfax and Presque Isle, and an academy at Presque Isle and Fairfield. When but sixteen years of age she began teaching school in Aroostook County, Me., continuing for three years, when, in 1872, she came to Illinois to live with her mother, Mrs. Joel Wheeler. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene S. Wheeler were: Joel E., Mabel E. and Lillian E. In politics Mr. Wheeler is a Republican. He owns the old family homestead, consisting of 206 acres, and has a fine home and estate.

Ivory Colbath, Mrs. Wheeler's father, was born in Smyrna, Me., the son of Royal Colbath, a farmer, and followed the occupation of a lumberman. His children were Jessie and Luella. Mr. Colbath was Sheriff of Aroostook County, Me., for several terms, and died at the age of forty-seven years.

#### SAMUEL H. WALKER.

In the death of this pioneer at Ringwood, in 1880, McHenry County lost a prominent farmer and efficient business man. He was born in Hebron, Grafton County, N. H., April 5, 1811, and came of good English ancestry. His grandfather, Bruce Walker, was a loyal American, who served valiantly in the Revolutionary War, while Daniel Walker, his father, was a respected citizen of Grafton County, N. H., where he was engaged in farming for many years. In politics he was an ardent Democrat and took an active interest in public affairs.

Samuel H. Walker attended the public schools of Grafton County, N. H., and while carrying on his literary studies for some time, devoted a part of his time to work upon his father's farm. When a young man, he went to Boston, where he secured a position in a box

factory, working for the meager salary of fifty cents per day, but acquiring at the same time valuable business experience. In 1836, when about twenty-five years of age, the hope of bettering his prospects led him to move to McHenry County, Ill., which, like the rest of the State, was then but sparsely settled, Chicago, at that time, being only a little log-cabin settlement. On a forty-acre tract in McHenry Township he furrowed off his claim, and there began a home for himself, which, in the course of time, he transformed into a neat, well-cultivated farm.

Mr. Walker married, in McHenry Township, Elizabeth Jane Everett, who died in 1851, and, in 1860, he was married, in Ringwood, Eliza Hendrickson, who was born in Richland, Oswego County, N. Y., May 9, 1835. After her husband's death, Mrs. Walker resided in Ringwood until 1899 when she purchased her present residence property in Lake Geneva, where she passes the summer month, and spends the winter season in Pasadena, Cal. She is a cultured woman with many charming social qualities, and has a large circle of friends. By his first marriage Mr. Walker had two children who died in infancy. By his second marriage there was one child, Nina G., who married William Cristy, a prominent resident of McHenry Township, who is now serving his fellow-townsmen as Supervisor. To Mr. and Mrs. Cristy two children have been born, Harold and Lynn.

After his marriage Mr. Walker settled on a 20-acre tract of land in Ringwood Township, where he made a pleasant residence for himself, and where he engaged in the grain trade. He also purchased several farms in this vicinity, which he greatly improved, becoming in time a wealthy land-owner. During this same period he erected a large pickle factory in Ringwood, where he carried on an extensive business for many years. Mr. Walker was far-sighted and energetic, and met with uniform success in his various enterprises. His honor was unimpeachable, and having made friends at every step in life, he was widely known and highly influential. Politically he was a strong Republican.

Mrs. Walker comes of two prominent families, the Drakes and the Hendricksons, the former being descendants from the well-known Admiral and explorer of that name. The Hendricksons settled in the State of New York



*S. H. Walker*





at an early day, and there, in Oswego County, William Hendrickson, the grandfather of Mrs. Walker, resided for many years, being engaged as a farmer. He passed his last days with his son John, in Barrington, Ill., where he died at an advanced age. He married Catherine Drake, and to them seven children were born, viz.: John, Alonzo D., Abram, William D., Mary, Nancy and Jane. Mr. Hendrickson was a man of marked integrity of character, respected wherever he was known. The Methodist church counted him as one of its strongest members.

William Drake Hendrickson, father of Mrs. Walker, was born in 1799, and when a young man engaged in farming in Oswego County, N. Y., where he owned a large farm. He married Catherine Ratnour, who was born in New York, and who comes of Holland-Dutch ancestry. By this union there were nine children: George, William, Henry, Alonzo, Catherine, Mary, Marcia, Ann and Eliza, all of whom grew to maturity upon the New York farm. About 1857 Mr. Hendrickson came to Illinois settling in Elgin, where he opened an establishment and engaged in marble work, carrying on a prosperous business in this line for many years. He lived to the age of eighty-three years, dying in 1882. He was interested in public affairs, and in politics affiliated with the Republican party from its organization. He was thoroughly upright and possessed the keenest sense of honor, and belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mrs. Walker is now deceased, her death having occurred since the preparation of this sketch.

#### MICHAEL F. WALSH.

Michael F. Walsh, newspaper editor and proprietor and Postmaster, Harvard, McHenry County, was born on a farm in Hartland Township, Jan. 17, 1866, the son of William and Johanna (Callahan) Walsh. Possessing few pecuniary and educational advantages in early life, he was reared on the farm, attending the district school during the winter and performing farm labor in the summer. As he grew older, he turned his attention to any honest employment which offered adequate compensation and promised him the means of acquiring a better education. When about eighteen years of age he obtained employment

in a printing office in Woodstock, with a view to learning the printer's trade, but three months later was compelled by sickness to return home. Here he resumed work on the farm, attended school for a time, and through his own efforts entered Beloit College, where he spent a year. In 1887 he went to Chicago, where he secured employment for a time in the circulating department of the "Chicago Mail" and "The Times," but returning to Harvard in December of the same year, with a cash capital of \$25, started the "Harvard Herald," which has since become one of the leading papers of McHenry County. He first leased a small room for use as an office, and, having the paper printed in Chicago, looked after the local circulation, which he worked up from the beginning. His enterprise and perseverance found no obstacle which could not be overcome and, at the end of the first year, he had not only supported himself and saved a little money, but had obtained a circulation of 500 copies. Then borrowing \$400, he bought a small Washington hand-press and some type and printer's supplies, and starting an office on his own account, with the aid of "patent insides," he was soon running in "smoother waters." In 1891, having secured an increased circulation, he took in a partner in the person of Mr. P. E. Whittleton of Harvard, and thus added new capital to the enterprise. In 1896, the "Harvard Herald" having become an assured success, a commodious two-story brick-building was erected as its permanent home, and this now constitutes the largest and best equipped printing office in McHenry County. The establishment was formally incorporated under State law in 1899, under the name of "The Harvard Herald Company," with a capital of \$12,000, wholly in the hands of three stockholders—Michael F. Walsh, P. E. Whittleton and James T. Walsh—the latter a brother of the founder of the paper, with which he has been connected since 1889. "The Herald" now has a circulation of over 2,000, believed to be the largest of any local journal in McHenry County, and enjoys a reputation for enterprise and progressiveness. It is a strenuous advocate of Republican principles, and treats political issues with vigor and ability. Fraternally Mr. Walsh is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, Mystic Workers of the World, and

has several times represented his Lodge of Woodmen in National Conventions. In 1897 he was commissioned by President McKinley Postmaster for the city of Harvard, an office which he still occupies. February 14, 1900, he was united in marriage at Portland, Ore., to Mary G. Groesbeck, who was born in Harvard, Ill., March 28, 1871, the daughter of John W. and Charlotte (Van Ness) Groesbeck. Starting without capital and with few advantages, Mr. Walsh has succeeded, by prudent management, business sagacity and native ability, through his own unaided efforts, in building up a prosperous business and furnishing to the people of McHenry County a trustworthy and valuable medium of local and general news, and stands as an illustration of what persistent industry, directed by sound judgment, will accomplish for individual and the public good.

William Walsh, father of Michael F., was born at Amsterdam, Montgomery County, N. Y., Nov. 26, 1834, the son of John and Nora (Gleason) Walsh. John Walsh was a native of Youghal, County Cork, Ireland, born in 1802, married in his native county, Nora Gleason, daughter of Capt. John Gleason, and soon after marriage came with his wife to America, sailing from Queenstown in the spring of 1834, in the good ship "Mary," which made the passage to Quebec in seven weeks. Proceeding directly from Quebec to Albany, N. Y., he found employment in a stone quarry, remaining until September, 1837, when he came to Chicago by way of the lakes. He then worked on the Illinois and Michigan Canal, in the vicinity of Lemont, Cook County, until 1841, when he removed to McHenry County. Arriving in Hartland Township in June, 1841, he there bought eighty acres of unimproved timber land, built a log-house upon it in which he lived in pioneer style, and began improving his farm. To his original purchase he added 160 acres of land near by, and became a substantial farmer, dying May 6, 1874, aged seventy-two years. He was a communicant of the Catholic Church, and in political relations, a Democrat. His children were: William, John, Eliza and Michael—the last named dying in infancy.

William, the oldest son of this family, was not quite three years old when his father came to Chicago, and in 1841, accompanied

the family to McHenry County, where he grew up amid pioneer surroundings, receiving a limited education in the common schools as they existed at that time. He has always pursued the life of a farmer. July 16, 1863, he was married in Hartland Township, to Johanna Callahan, born in County Kerry, Ireland, the daughter of John and Julia (McKenna) Callahan. John Callahan was a stone-mason by trade and, coming to America after his marriage, worked at his trade in Chicago. He died at Bloomingdale, Ill., his wife dying in Ireland. Their children were: James, Patrick, Matthew, Bartholomew, Mary and Ellen.

Mrs. Johanna (Callahan) Walsh came to America with friends in 1856, and, after reaching Chicago, went to Hartland Township, where she had relatives. After marriage William Walsh settled down to farming and improved land given him by his father, and which the latter had brought from the Government in 1846. As was customary with the early settlers, he first built a log cabin, but afterwards erected more substantial buildings. In general politics Mr. Walsh is a Democrat, but, on local matters, votes independently. His family are members of the Catholic Church. His children are: John, Michael F., William, James (1), Mary, Elizabeth and Josie. Henry, his fifth son, died at seventeen years of age. Mr. Walsh has a vivid recollection of conditions existing when he first came to McHenry County, there being then but few log cabins in Hartland Township and but one house in Woodstock; a region where deer and other game were abundant, and the ordinary mode of conveyance was by ox-team. Of the early Irish settlers in that region only Patrick McCabe still survives at an advanced age. Others of that period were: Adrew Donnelly, Frank Short, Neill Donnelly and the Quinlans—Cornelius, Dennis, John and Jeremiah, all of whom have passed away. Mr. Walsh's reminiscences of the families, and of the period to which they belonged, are full of interest.

#### THOMAS J. WALSH.

The career of Thomas J. Walsh illustrates most forcibly the possibilities that are open in this country to earnest, persevering young men, who have the courage of their convictions, and the determination to be the architects of their own fortunes. It proves that





John J. Whiteside



neither wealth, social position nor influential friends are essential to the attainment of eminent usefulness, honorable distinction and true success.

Thomas J. Walsh is a self-made man in the fullest sense of that often misused term. A native of Illinois, he was born in McHenry County, Feb. 5, 1855, and received his education in the public schools of his native town.

The Walsh family is of Irish ancestry from Queens County, Ireland, and many of the family have settled in America, where their natural ability and strong integrity has placed them in the front rank of business and professional circles. William Walsh, father of Thomas J., was born in Queens County, Ireland, in October, 1815. He learned the harness maker's trade, and, when a young man, came to America in a sailing-vessel, arriving at Quebec. He married there Amelia Rawson, of English parentage, born in 1819, daughter of Joseph and Mary Payne. In 1845 Mr. Walsh moved to McHenry, where he became one of the early harness makers and a prominent citizen. Here he reared his family and passed the remainder of his days. His children were Edward R., Amelia, James S., Thomas J. and Charles A. Mr. Walsh was a member of the Catholic church, and in politics a Democrat.

Thomas J., Walsh married, Sept. 10, 1877, Lola L. Bishop, born in McHenry, August 13, 1855, daughter of Richard and Mary (Morris) Bishop.

Richard Bishop was born in New York State, Nov. 16, 1824, the son of Hezekiah and Charlotte Bishop. He served as a member of the State Legislature, was on the Board of Supervisors of his town, and one of the early members and founders of the Universalist church in McHenry. (See sketch of Richard Bishop in this volume.)

Thomas J. Walsh began to work in Mr. Bishop's flouring-mill when a boy. By his industry, attention to business and honest character, he not only learned the business, but gradually worked up to a responsible position. He remained in the flouring-mill until Mr. Bishop's death, when he engaged in the agricultural implement business, in which he still continues. Mr. Walsh has met with a marked degree of success and is now one of the substantial business men of McHenry. He is a man of broad views, a member of the Uni-

versalist church, and well known throughout the surrounding country as a business man of integrity and high standing in the mercantile community. Mr and Mrs. Walsh have one child, Richard Bishop.

#### JOHN J. WHITESIDE.

John J. Whiteside, the rising young lawyer of Woodstock, combines with a more than ordinary legal education unusual inherent ability for the profession, and has prospects for becoming one of the leading members of the McHenry County bar. He is now about thirty-three years old, and has for several years been associated with Mr. Lumley as a member of both law and real estate firms, the latter being known as Lumley, Whiteside & Murphey.

Mr. Whiteside comes of a highly cultivated and professional family. The early Whitesides were from Ireland, and John Whiteside, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, was of the original stock.

Phineas Whiteside, great-great-grandfather of John J., came from County Tyrole, Ireland, and settled in Washington County, N. Y., where he secured 1,400 acres of land and engaged in agriculture. A practical hard-working farmer and a good business man, he made well out of his enterprise and won for himself a solid prosperity. He passed his last days on this farm, where he died and was buried. He left six sons and one daughter, and their descendants still own the greater part of the original tract of 1,400 acres. William, the son of Phineas, was a Lieutenant in the War of the Revolution, and was the father of Dr. John Whiteside, grandfather of John J., the subject of this sketch. Dr. Whiteside was the leading physician of Milford, N. Y. He received a liberal education, which he supplemented with a thorough course in medicine. In 1823, from the New York Board of Health, he received his license to practice, and opening an office at Milford in that State, gained a large practice, which was continued throughout his active professional life. Having married in early manhood, he had nine children. He was not only a legal physician, but a man of wide influence in all walks of life.

Romeyn Whiteside, father of John J., was born in Milford, N. Y., Oct. 1833, and there acquired his early education, taking a classical course. His course at Union College having been interrupted, in 1856, he came to Polo,



Ill., where he engaged in teaching in the public school until the outbreak of the Civil War. Early in that struggle he enlisted as a private in Company D, Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was later promoted to First Lieutenant and transferred to Company H of the same regiment, and, going to the front, took part in the battle of Shiloh, the Vicksburg campaign and many other important engagements. Having contracted the yellow fever, he was finally furloughed and returned to Polo for recuperation. After a short rest he assisted in raising a new company of men, of which he became a member for three years' service and participated in many of the hardest fought battles of the war, in all serving his country for a period of four years and seven months. He proved himself an efficient soldier and received a medal in acknowledgment of his bravery. After the war, Lieutenant Whiteside returned to Polo, and there, in 1869, married Maria Emma Stapley, widow of James L. Stapley, born in Rock Falls, Ill., daughter of Robert Atkins, and the first white child born in Coloma Township, Whiteside County. Robert Atkins came from Toronto, Canada, and erected the first dwelling in Rapids City, now known as Rock Falls. He met his death by an accident at a barn-raising. He had a family of seven children: Robert, Charles, Mary, Albert, Allen, Emma and Maria. Mrs. Whiteside, who was a woman of marked force of character and ability, died in Rock Falls, Feb. 27, 1878. By her marriage to James L. Stapley there were three children: Edward H., Louise S. and James L., Jr. To Mr. and Mrs. Romeyn Whiteside were born two children: John J., who is mentioned below, and Phrocline.

After marriage Mr. Whiteside settled in Polo, Ill., where he continued teaching for some time, but later accepted a position as editor and proof-reader for the Lakeside Publishing Company, Chicago, moving to that city and entering upon his duties in 1871, where he remained for sixteen years. In April, 1887, he received an appointment through Gen. Edward Dustin, a Trustee of the Illinois Soldiers' Home at Quincy, as Head Sergeant of the Home, but died on May 25, 1887, just one month after his appointment.

Lieut. Romeyn Whiteside was a man of much ability and gifted in many lines. While in Polo he served as Justice of the Peace for many years. As a veteran of the Civil War he was affiliated with the Polo Post G. A. R.

John J. Whiteside, owing to the ill-health of

his mother and her early death—which occurred when he was but seven years old—was reared mainly by a benevolent uncle, Col. Zebulon E. Goodrich, of Marengo, a bachelor of means and prominence, who acted as Colonel of the Eighty-fifth New York Infantry during the Civil War. In 1867 Colonel Goodrich settled in Marengo with his sister, Roxanne, as house-keeper, where, in the steady pursuit of business, he added materially to his wealth, being one of the founders and a large stock-holder in the Dairyman's State Bank, in which he held the office of President until he was eighty years old. He also owned three large farms in Seneca Township, purchased in 1856, from which he received a considerable income. He lived to an advanced age, dying in Marengo Aug. 8, 1897. He was a man of marked benevolence and he and his sister furnished homes to twenty-one homeless children, none of them remaining for less than three years.

John J. Whiteside was born in Polo, Ogle County, Ill., June 3, 1870, and as a child, taking up his residence with his uncle in Marengo, received his early education in the schools of that city. After graduating from the Polo High School, he entered Lake Forest University, where he remained four years, after which he began the study of law, two years later entering the Northern Illinois College of Law, from which he graduated in May, 1899. Later he took a post-graduate course at the Northwestern University at Evanston, from which he graduated in June, 1900, and the same year became associated with V. S. Lumley, a prominent attorney of Woodstock. On April 3, 1902, Mr. Whiteside was admitted to the bar and has since been associated with Mr. Lumley as a member of the firm. In addition to his professional work, Mr. Whiteside has assisted in the management of the real estate firm of Lumley, Whiteside & Murphey, and by his close study of the market and the special features of the property with which he has to deal, is proving himself a capable business man. He is prospering in his work, and he has a pleasant residence in Woodstock, which has been his home since 1900.

At Elgin, Ill., Sept. 17, 1895, Mr. Whiteside was married to Ruby May Cady, who was born in Riley Township, McHenry County, the daughter of Alfred and Hannah Mary (Edwards) Cady. Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside have had one son, Alfred Romeyn, who was born Sept. 2, 1901, and died Nov. 6, 1901.

Mr. Whiteside's traits of character and at-



MRS. JOHN J. WHITESIDE.





tainments have won him the confidence and respect of the citizens of Woodstock. He is energetic, decisive and exceedingly practical in business, sympathetic, yet firm with his clients, fair, and even generous, to opponents. His tact and his readiness at repartee have won him social recognition as well as professional prominence, and he stands high in the best circles of Woodstock. Fraternally he is popular and belongs to the A. O. U. W., National Union and Royal Arcanum, of Woodstock, having acted as Master of the first named lodge in Marengo. Politically he is a Republican.

The Cady family of which Mrs. Whiteside is a member, is an old and prominent one. Stephen Peter Cady, great-grandfather of Mrs. Whiteside, who was a blacksmith by trade, was born in Connecticut, and moved at an early period to Saratoga County, N. Y., where he followed his trade for many years, but later he settled in Stratford, in the same State, and there passed his last days, dying in his eighty-first year. In early manhood he married in Saratoga County, Betsy Edwards and they had seven children: Caroline, Ebenezer (who is mentioned below), Harriet, Edgar, Emily, Seneca and Herman. Mr. Cady was honest, public-spirited and influential in local affairs, and a man highly respected wherever he was known.

Ebenezer Cady, grandfather of Mrs. Whiteside, who was a farmer by occupation, and the first of his line to settle in Illinois, was born in Saratoga County, N. Y., Jan. 15, 1815, and when a small boy, moved with his parents to Salisbury, Herkimer County N. Y., where he received a common school education, and there married Mary E. Case, who was born in Salisbury. She died in that place some years after marriage, and sometime later he married Pauline P. Jennings, who was born in Salisbury July 17, 1817, the daughter of Samuel Jennings, a farmer, and a descendant of a prominent Connecticut family. By his first marriage Mr. Cady had one child, Mary, who lived to maturity, married and resided in Marengo, where she died. By his second marriage Mr. Cady had six children: Edwin, who was a private in the Ninety-seventh Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil War, and was killed at the battle of Gettysburg; Alfred, who is mentioned below; Sarah A., Oscar, Lodica and Emily. After marriage Mr. Cady settled in Salisbury, N. Y., and there remained until

1851, when he moved to Vernon, Oneida County, same State. In 1863 he moved to Marengo Township, McHenry County, where he settled upon a 100-acre farm one mile west of the village of Marengo. Here he carried on his farm until 1882, when he retired from business and settled in Marengo, dying there in 1890, at the age of seventy-five years. As a Whig in early days, and later as a Republican, Mr. Cady was influential in local politics.

Alfred Cady, father of Mrs. Whiteside, is a retired farmer and business man of Marengo, who has been prominently identified with the public affairs of his city. Born in Salisbury, N. Y., Aug. 2, 1843, he was but seven years old when his parents moved to Vernon, N. Y., and nineteen when they came to Illinois. In the public schools of these different localities he received his education, finishing with a high school course at Marengo. Having entered upon his life occupation as a farmer, on Oct. 13, 1869, he was married at Marengo, Ill., to Hannah Mary Edwards, who was born in Greenfield, Saratoga County, N. Y., Sept. 30, 1846, the daughter of William and Mary (Bowen) Edwards, and of this union there have been born three children: Ruby May, who is mentioned above; William Carlton, who died at the age of fifteen years, and Edwin James. After marriage Mr. Cady settled upon a well improved farm of 112 acres in Riley Township, McHenry County. He finally increased the area of his farm until it embraced 152 acres, erecting upon it substantial buildings, materially increasing its value. In 1880 he opened a factory in Marengo for the manufacture of dairying supplies, and also engaged in other enterprises with marked success. In consequence of failing eye-sight he found himself incapacitated for business, his trouble ending in total blindness. He is still, however, a large property owner, besides his well improved farm, being owner of several city lots and residences and other valuable property.

Mr. Cady is a well-informed man, possesses a retentive memory and has been a great reader all his life. As a Republican he has figured prominently in local politics and has held several offices of trust and responsibility. He is well known and highly esteemed in all circles, and the Methodist church counts him and his wife among its most worthy members. Naturally cheerful and genial, he bears the loss of his sight with remarkable fortitude.

## WILLIAM WAKELEY.

William Wakeley, retired farmer, Harvard, Ill., an early settler of McHenry County, and for many years a prosperous farmer of Chemung Township, is descended from a Colonial Connecticut family of mixed Irish and Welsh ancestry. His father, also named William Wakeley, was a native of Litchfield, Conn., born in April, 1802, the son of a physician. William Wakeley, Sr., was a drummer boy in the War of 1812, later learning the shoemaker's trade, after which he married at Athens, N. Y., in September, 1821, Margaret Whippy, who was born on Nantucket Island, June 11, 1804, the daughter of Reuben and Abial Whippy. The father, Reuben Whippy, who was a lame man, was a shoemaker by trade. Late in life he removed from Nantucket to Athens, N. Y., where he died. His children were: Nancy, George, Margaret and Ann. Mr. Wakeley, Sr., worked at his trade at Athens, N. Y., until about 1826, when he removed to Buffalo, N. Y., and a few years later to Williamsville, in the same State, where he remained until 1849. He then started west with a view to settling in Kansas. Leaving his family in Chicago with his son William, he proceeded westward alone, but was seized with cholera, en route, and died on the St. Mary's River in Missouri. He was a self-educated man, but was well informed, and, for many years, served as a Justice of the Peace, and also practiced law at times before the Justices' courts. In politics he was a Democrat, was an industrious citizen and a kind-hearted, indulgent father, but taught his children the virtue of obedience. His children were: William (the subject of this sketch), James, Caroline, George and Benton. Mrs. Wakeley, the mother of this family, lived to be seventy-seven years old. In her later years she went to California and spent some time with her son Benton, but returning to Illinois, lived with her son William until her death, which occurred in February, 1881.

William Wakeley, Jr., was born at Athens, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1822, and having received a limited common school education, at thirteen years of age began learning the shoemaker's trade with his father. While working on the bench he continued his studies, and learned to "cipher" until he could perform any example in the old Daboll's Arithmetic. When he had reached twenty years of age he opened a shop for himself at Newstead, fifteen miles east of Williamsville; and here, on April 26, 1846, he

was married to Joanna Hunt, who was born at Day, N. Y., Jan. 6, 1824, the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Deming) Hunt. Her father, George Hunt, was born in 1791, and her mother Aug. 19, 1792. Mr. Hunt was a farmer of Newstead, N. Y., where after settlement there, he spent the rest of his life. He and his wife had children named: Lydia, Susannah, Chloe, Joanna, George, Elizabeth, Tryphena, Minerva and Pamela.

Before his marriage Mr. Wakeley had bought seventeen acres of land, and, by industry and frugal management, had saved a few hundred dollars. He worked at his trade until 1850, when, in April of that year, he removed to McHenry County, Ill., settling in Chemung Township, three miles north of Harvard, where he bought twenty acres of land, seven of which had been broken, the remainder being unimproved. Here he established a shoe-shop, to which settlers came for many miles to have their work done. The shoemaker of those days was a very different sort of workman from the "cobbler" of the present time. Mr. Wakeley brought leather with him for his first work, and was accustomed to make shoes of all sorts and for all classes—men, women and children. He followed his trade industriously, and often exchanged work with his farmer patrons, making shoes for them while they paid him by working for him in the harvest field. In this way he prospered, soon doubled his holding of land, later making other additions until he became the owner of 237½ acres. The log cabin, covered with oak "shakes," which stood on his land when he bought it, he replaced by a substantial frame dwelling in 1863, and erected good barns and other farm buildings, finally becoming one of the prosperous farmers of his township. He continued his work at the shoemaker's trade until 1868, when he closed his shop permanently, thereafter devoting his attention solely to his farm.

Mr. Wakeley has been twice married, the children by his first wife being George H., Chloe, William S., Milo and Walter A. Mrs. Wakeley, who died April 17, 1880, was a member of the Methodist church and a woman of many virtues. On November 11, 1882, Mr. Wakeley was married to Arabella Cochran (nee Grimley), the widow of Murray Cochran, who was a Union soldier during the Civil War. Mr. and Mrs. Cochran had three daughters, Eva, Minnie and Ethel. Mrs. Arabella (Grimley) Wakeley was born at Ellenville, N. Y., Sept.



*Chapin A Miles*





29, 1847, the daughter of Thomas and Melissa (Terwilliger) Grimley. Her father, Thomas Grimley, was born in the "Drowned Lands" region in Sullivan County, N. Y., the son of Jonathan and Nancy (Ingham) Grimley. His father, Jonathan Grimley, who was a native of England, was bookkeeper for a wealthy cutlery firm at Sheffield, England, and in his early manhood eloped with and married Nancy Ingham, the daughter of Jonathan Ingham, a member of the firm. Her father having refused to be reconciled, the young couple, after remaining in England about four months, came to America and settled in Sullivan County, N. Y., where he became a substantial farmer and where he finally died aged eighty years. The Grimleys were not recognized in the will of Jonathan Ingham, so his property went into the hands of other heirs. Mr. and Mrs. Grimley had fifteen children, eleven of whom grew to years of maturity, viz.: William, John, Joseph, Thomas, Nancy, Eliza, Emeline, Alfred, Mary, Edgar and Sarah. Mr. Grimley was a Presbyterian in religious faith and a man of stanch character. Thomas Grimley of this family, who became the father of Mrs. Wakeley, received a common school education and became a glass-blower in Ellenville, N. Y. He was married there to Melissa Terwilliger, who was born at Mountain Dale, N. Y., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Terwilliger. The Terwilligers were of Holland-Dutch ancestry, and Benjamin F. was a farmer at Mountain Dale. He died at the home of a daughter in Sullivan County, N. Y. The children of this family were Debora and Melissa—the latter becoming Mrs. Grimley. Thomas Grimley was a soldier of the Civil War, having enlisted at St. Charles, Ill., Sept. 17, 1861, as a private in Company I, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, Col. J. F. Farnsworth. His company commander was Capt. H. L. Rapelye. He was honorably discharged at Chicago in February, 1864. During the period of his service he was promoted for gallant and meritorious conduct from Commissary Sergeant through the various grades to Captain, meanwhile participating in an even hundred battles and skirmishes, including the battles of Gettysburg, the Seven Day's Fight in the Wilderness, the battles of Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, Richmond, Fredericksburg, Chancellorville, Culpepper Court House and Williamsport. During this time he was never wounded nor a prisoner, but on three different occasions received bullet-holes through his hat. In 1863

he was detailed to purchase horses for the Government and remained in this business for several months.

After his second marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wakeley remained on the farm until 1898, when they removed to Harvard, where he now owns a pleasant home, including three lots. He also retains the home farm. Their children are: Roy P., Vera A. and Guy B.—all having received good educations. Mrs. Wakeley is a member of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Wakeley a stanch Republican. He cast his first vote for James K. Polk, the Democratic candidate for President in 1844, but from the organization of the Republican party supported its candidates for the Presidency, including John C. Fremont in 1856, and Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He has held various local offices, including Assessor (1862-3) and Overseer of the Poor for Chemung Township, of the latter being relieved at his own request by the Supervisor of the Township. He was also Commissioner of Highways for several years. Mr. Wakeley is a man of iron constitution, and now, at the age of over eighty-one years, is in the enjoyment of all his mental and physical faculties, being able to read without glasses. Physically active, he also possesses a marked intelligence and is an especially entertaining conversationalist.

#### CHAPIN A. WILCOX.

Chapin A. Wilcox, an early settler of McHenry County, substantial farmer and prominent citizen, springs from Puritan and colonial Connecticut stock, his remote ancestors coming from Wales. There is a tradition that three brothers named Seth, Enoch and Timothy Wilcox, came to America at an early day—the two first named settling in Connecticut and the last in Rhode Island. A descendant of one of these brothers, also named Enoch, was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He was a native of Connecticut, born near Hartford, married Chloe Cossit in his native State, and in 1798, moved to Pompey, Onondaga County, N. Y. Their children were: Grandison, Corinthia, Pattie (or Martha), Jarvis, Chloe, Timothy, Alvira and Warren—all born in Pompey, N. Y., except Grandison, who was a native of Connecticut. Enoch Wilcox settled in a heavily timbered region in Onondaga County, where he cleared up a farm, but about 1827-8 moved to Chautauqua County, settling at Casadaga, where he became the proprietor of a

saw-mill, which he managed some years. He spent here the latter years of his life, partly opened up a farm and died aged about sixty years. He was a soldier of the War of 1812, and took part in the battle of Sackett's Harbor. In religion he was a Methodist, in politics an old-line Whig, and having some knowledge of law, practiced to some extent in the Justices' courts. Amy, daughter of John Wilcox and a second cousin of Enoch, was the first white child born in Onondaga County. Martha, daughter of Enoch Wilcox, married Delos Beebe, the first white child born in Erie County, N. Y.

Grandison, the oldest son of Enoch Wilcox, last named, was born in Connecticut, April 4, 1797, and received a common-school education at Pompey, N. Y., but was largely self-educated. He became a farmer and, in 1821, was married at Pompey, N. Y., to Theodosia Chapin, who was born near Salisbury, Mass., the daughter of Aaron and Martha (Brundage) Chapin. The Chapins are of English descent, and a well-known colonial family of Massachusetts. After marriage Grandison Wilcox remained for a few years on the Wilcox homestead, but later settled near Manlius, N. Y., where he lived eight years, when he moved to the Chapin homestead. About 1829 he returned to the vicinity of Manlius, where he opened up a farm of 100 acres. Here he spent the active years of his life, though his last twenty years were spent for the most part with his son, Chapin A. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he was a class-leader and exhorter; politically, he was an old-line Whig and an early Abolitionist, casting his vote for James G. Birney for President in 1844, and, in his latter years, a Republican. He and his wife were the parents of two children: Chapin A., born Dec. 25, 1822, and Martha, born Sept. 15, 1831—both born at Manlius, N. Y.

Chapin A. Wilcox received a good education in his youth, and has always followed the occupation of a farmer. Early in 1844 he came west, making the journey to Detroit by lake steamer, and thence across the State of Michigan by the partially completed Michigan Central Railroad to Chicago—carrying his baggage on his back seven miles at one point over an incompleated section of the road. On June 19, following, he was married, at Kenosha, Wis., to Susan A. Smith, who was born in Columbia County, N. Y., Jan. 4, 1824, the daughter of

Peter E. and Electa (Smith) Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox first settled in Onondaga County, N. Y., but two years later (1846) made a visit to Mrs. Wilcox's parents near Kenosha, Wis. During this trip Mr. Wilcox extended his visit to McHenry County, where he looked over the land where, in February, 1848, he entered 480 acres, besides nine acres of timber-land which he bought in the Marengo woods. It was not until April, 1856, however, that he came west, locating at Evansville, Rock County, Wis., where they resided one year, when, on April 3, 1857, he removed to McHenry County, Ill., settling on his present homestead. For the first few months they lived in a building which had been erected for a barn, but on November 16th following, occupied the brick dwelling which had, in the meantime, been in process of erection. By his industry and economy Mr. Wilcox opened up a good farm and added to his land, until he became the owner of about 670 acres. Of this he subsequently sold 120 acres, besides giving to his two sons 160 acres each, leaving 225 acres and the family residence, which he still occupies. His first residence having been destroyed by fire on Dec. 10, 1880, it was replaced during the following year by a commodious two-story brick residence of more substantial character, making one of the most comfortable farm homesteads in McHenry County. Following in the footsteps of his father, Mr. Wilcox was an original Abolitionist, casting his first Presidential vote for James G. Birney, and has later been a staunch Republican. His father was identified with the "Underground Railroad," the Wilcox home in New York being a station at which runaway slaves frequently received shelter and food, while making their way to Canada and freedom. Instances are related in which Chapin Wilcox played the part of "conductor" in carrying fugitives, who had been secreted in his father's home at Syracuse, N. Y., by night, in a covered wagon to Oswego, whence they escaped to Canada.

Mr. Wilcox, though not a seeker for office, has served his township as Road Commissioner for twelve years and as Assessor one year, besides serving several years on the School Board. In these positions he has given evidence of public spirit in the promotion of public improvement and his friendship for the cause of education.

Peter E. Smith, the father of Mrs. Wilcox, was born of colonial stock in Connecticut, Dec.





*P. A. Wilcox.*



24, 1800, and his parents having moved to New York, he was educated in a Quaker boarding school at Kinderhook in that State. In 1843 he removed with his family to Bristol, Kenosha County, Wis., where he became the owner of a good farm. Having sold his farm in his old age, he resided for a time at Evanston, Ill., but spent the last eight years of his life with his daughter, Mrs. Wilcox, dying at the age of ninety years. Originally a Democrat, in later years he became a Republican. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and were parents of the following named children: Susan A., born Jan. 4, 1825; Mary P., born March 7, 1826; Debora, born June 8, 1834; Phoebe A., born Oct. 10, 1836; Emily R., born Nov. 5, 1840.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox have had three children: Frances Isabel, Eugene Grandison and Emmett S.—whose family records run as follows:

Frances Isabel Wilcox, born May 2, 1849, married Samuel L. Tate, and they have had the following named children: Elva, born Oct. 10, 1870; Edith Susan, born Dec. 16, 1872; Frances Belle, born Feb. 21, 1875; Helen Louisa, born March 14, 1883. Edith Susan Tate, of this family, was married, Feb. 26, 1897, to Frederick S. Eldred, who was born Oct. 7, 1870, and they have one child, Frederick Wilson Eldred, born May 18, 1901.

Eugene Grandison Wilcox, born August 27, 1858, married August 14, 1888, Mary Ellen Green, who was born May 9, 1868, and they have five children: Lawrence Eugene, born Dec. 29, 1890; Marguerette Laura and Marjory Belle (twins), born August 25, 1895; Chapin Aaron, born June 28, 1898; Harry Green, born August 11, 1901.

Emmett Smith Wilcox (twin brother of Eugene Grandison,) born August 27, 1858, married, Jan. 14, 1880, Allatta Grace Metcalf, born August 10, 1860; children—Ada Grace, born Sept. 13, 1880; Maxwell Chapin, born May 30, 1884; Elna Louise, born July 29, 1886. Ada Grace Wilcox of this family married, Nov. 20, 1900, Blanford Frederick Pierce, who was born Nov. 6, 1878. Emmett Smith Wilcox, the head of this family, was killed by a runaway team, March 15, 1902.

Chapin A. Wilcox is a man of strong character who has acquired a good property by upright, honest methods, and has assisted in the material development of his section of the county.

#### JOHN F. WILSON.

John F. Wilson, whose attractive 148-acre farm in Marengo Township is the picture of thrift and prosperity, has long been a resident of this section, for the past fifteen years occupying his present home. Mr. Wilson is of good Scotch ancestry, his grandfather, James Wilson, who was a resident of Scotland, being a farmer by occupation and, for a time, the manager of a grist-mill. He was married twice, and of his children there were two sons—John and James—besides one daughter.

John Wilson, the father of John F., was born in Berwickshire, Scotland, in May, 1810, and in his native country received careful rearing. Coming to America in early manhood, he spent some years in Canada, where he was married and had one daughter named Eliza. About 1840 he came to Illinois, and, in 1844, settled upon a tract of slightly improved land north of Marengo, then consisting of 188 acres, where his son John now resides. Possessed of industrious energy, he cleared up his land, replaced the log cabin, which he found there, with commodious and substantial buildings, making a comfortable home, where he spent the remainder of his life. His first wife, whom he married in Canada, having died about the time he settled in Marengo Township, in 1844 he married Margaret Pringle, who was also a native of Berwickshire, Scotland, born Feb. 15, 1819, the daughter of John and Sidney (Patterson) Pringle. Mrs. Wilson was about twenty years old when she came with her parents to Illinois. They settled near Galena, and she was about twenty-five years old at the time of her marriage. She was a faithful helpmate of her husband, and has always been most highly esteemed in her community. By his second marriage Mr. Wilson had eight children: James, who died at the age of six years; Sidney, who married Dr. Miller; Anna, who married Ghordis Stull; Mary, Margaret and Emma, who were never married; Helen, who died in early womanhood; John; and Edith, who also died in early life. Mr. Wilson's daughter, Eliza, by his first marriage, married Rev. John Hutchinson.

Mr. Wilson was well read, especially upon subjects relating to national policy. A sturdy Scotchman, he became a stanch American citizen, was one of the organizers of the Republican party in McHenry County, and was a zealous champion of its principles. As a devout member of the Presbyterian church, he gave



his support to all good works, being especially liberal in his offerings for church benevolences. Possessed of a high sense of honor, kind-hearted and generous, he was a thoroughly good citizen, and a model husband and father. He died May 18, 1889, aged seventy-nine years. Mrs. Wilson, who still survives him, has been a life-long member of the Presbyterian church, with which she united in her native Scotland during her childhood.

John F. Wilson, the son of John and Margaret (Pringle) Wilson, was born on the farm, where he now resides, Feb. 26, 1857. In the public schools of his neighborhood he received his early education, afterwards for a time attending the Marengo High School. Reared to farm work, upon reaching manhood he chose that occupation for his life-work. September 5, 1888, he married Mary E. Lockwood, of Dorr Township, who was born Dec. 28, 1863, the daughter of Minor and Belva (Button) Lockwood. By this union there have been eight children: Maxwell Minor, born July 13, 1889; Marjorie Belle, March 16, 1891; Edith Helen, Dec. 24, 1892; Ruth, Nov. 21, 1894; Kathryn H., Nov. 27, 1896; Jean Marie, Nov. 22, 1898; Gladys Ruby, Oct. 10, 1900, and John, Sept. 7, 1902. After marriage Mr. Wilson settled upon his father's farm in Marengo Township, now consisting of 148 acres, and here he has since resided. By his untiring industry he has carried on a successful business and has added many improvements. In his methods he is progressive and scientific, and is recognized as one of the foremost agriculturists of his section.

Mr. Wilson is well-informed, public-spirited, practical, business-like and capable. In the public affairs of his community his word carries weight, and as a person keenly interested in the advertisement of education, he has acted as school director for many years. A person of high moral principles, interested in all good works he is a power for good in his community. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party. His family are regular attendants upon the services of the Presbyterian church.

#### WILLIAM P. WALKUP.

Prominent among the few surviving pioneers of McHenry County stands the name of William P. Walkup, who still resides in the locality which has been his home for two generations. His father, Christopher Walkup, traced his

lineage through a colonial Virginia family to Irish ancestry, having been himself born in Greenbrier County (now West Virginia) about 1794. He received the limited education common at that time, became a farmer and was married to Sabina Beard, a native of the same county and member of an old Virginia family of Scotch descent. Mr. and Mrs. Walkup first settled in their native county, but later moved to Nicholas County, W. Va., where they lived on a mountain farm some five years. Their children—all born in Greenbrier County—were: John, Margaret, Josiah, William P. (our subject), Janet and Sabina. In 1832 or '33 the older son, John, and John McClure, who had married the daughter Margaret, emigrated to LaPorte, Ind., where they remained two years. In the spring of 1835, they removed to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Nunda on the border of Dorr Township. The flattering reports concerning the new country which they wrote back to their old home induced the rest of the family to follow them. The journey, which occupied between five and six weeks, was made with a canvas-covered, four-horse wagon (or "prairie schooner" as it was sometimes called), that carried the household effects and a part of the family, Mrs. Walkup riding all the way on horseback. At night the family camped by the wayside, sleeping in a tent or in the wagon, and cooking their meals over the camp-fire in camping style. They reached their destination, in what is now Dorr Township, on Oct. 1, 1835, finally settling on the site where Mr. William P. Walkup now resides. Here the elder Walkup built a primitive log-cabin with a stick and clay chimney, broad fire-place and puncheon floor, in which they lived for several years. The cabin had a loft or attic reached by a ladder, which served for a sleeping room and storage purposes. Through the aid of Mr. Isaac Torbert, he was enabled to enter 400 acres of land, upon which about 1846, he erected the first all frame house in the township. Mr. Torbert was a man of education and capital, as well as one of the earliest settlers of the township, and did much to assist the pioneers in securing title to the lands on which they had located claims and begun improvements. Mr. and Mrs. Walkup were both members of the Presbyterian church and assisted in the erection of the first church edifice of that denomination in Dorr Township—this being built on Mr. Walkup's land. While Lake County was still attached to McHenry

County, he served as Deputy Sheriff under Sheriff Steele, and on the separation of the two counties in 1840, was elected Sheriff of McHenry County, serving four years. He died in May, 1869, having reached the age of seventy-five years. He is remembered as a man of honorable, sturdy character, and was widely known and respected.

William P. Walkup, the third son and fourth child of this family, was born in Greenbrier County, Va. (now W. Va.), May 25, 1817, received such education as was customary among farmers' boys at that time, and, at the age of seventeen years, accompanied his parents to McHenry County. Here he assisted his father to erect the first cabin home of the family and open the new farm, and attended the first school in McHenry County (1836-37), which was taught by Miss Alvirah Cornish at the residence of Uriah Cottle. After one winter term at this school, he attended a school taught in a log-house at Crystal Lake, and this completed his education. He also labored upon the farm to assist his father in paying off the indebtedness which had been incurred in the purchase of the land, receiving the deed himself from Mr. Torbert. He afterwards sold 200 acres of this land, retaining a like amount, upon which he erected a substantial and convenient two-story frame residence in 1869, which is now one of the most attractive homesteads in McHenry County. In 1840, being then in his early manhood, Mr. Walkup assisted in the erection, on his father's farm, of the first Presbyterian church edifice in Dorr Township. On November 23, 1848, he was married to Miss Esther Louisa White, daughter of Robert G. and Esther (Ormond) White, born in Bond County, Ill., March 23, 1824.

Mr. White (Mrs. Walkup's father) early in life was a farmer and brick-mason at Fogg's Manor, Penn., while young went to North Carolina where he married, moved thence to Kentucky and then to Indiana, spending a short time in each State, and, about 1818, came to Bond County, Ill., where he owned and operated a saw-mill and a farm. In 1836 he removed to McHenry County, settling in Seneca Township, where he became the owner of a large farm—also, about 1840, built the first saw-mill in that part of the county and operated it for a number of years. He had four sons and two daughters named, Isaac, Benjamin, Mary, John, Alfred and Louisa, all of whom were settled near him. He was a member, and for many

years an elder, of the Presbyterian church; also an early Justice of the Peace and a County Commissioner of McHenry County. He died at the home of his son-in-law, Mr. Walkup, at the venerable age of eighty-five years.

Lowell A., son of William P. Walkup, was born on the present homestead, Dec. 14, 1849, received a good common-school education, attended Todd's Seminary at Woodstock and afterwards spent one year at Beloit College, Wis. He engaged in farming and married at Cooper's Plains, N. Y., Dec. 25, 1889, Annie L. Morse, born at Painted Post, Steuben County, N. Y., May 23, 1856, the daughter of Dr. Floyd and Mary A. (Pierce) Morse.

Dr. Floyd Morse was born in Yates County, N. Y., his ancestors being members of an old colonial family from Connecticut. He had a very thorough medical education, practiced medicine at Bradford, Livingston County, N. Y., and later at Painted Post, where he died at the age of thirty-three years. His children were: Emma, Benjamin Rush, Floyd H., and Annie L.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lowell A. Walkup settled on the Walkup homestead, where they have since resided. Their children were: William Ralph, born Jan. 28, 1891; Harold Morse, born July 28, 1893; Lowell Alfred, born August 31, 1895, who died July 8, 1901. Two other children of Mr. and Mrs. Walkup were: Esther, who died aged about two years, and Addie, who died aged about seven years.

Politically Mr. William P. Walkup was originally an old-line Whig, became a Republican on the organization of that party and a supporter of both Fremont and Lincoln, but of late years has taken an "independent position." He held the office of School Trustee for a number of years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Walkup are devoted members and liberal supporters of the Presbyterian church, of which he has been an elder for some forty-five years. Living an upright and Christian life, kind and courteous to all, no citizen of McHenry County enjoys in a higher degree the esteem of his neighbors and fellow-citizens.

#### PEARSON KELLETT WRIGHT.

Pearson Kellett Wright, newspaper editor and proprietor, Richmond, McHenry County, is a worthy representative of the editorial profession, as well as a leading factor in local and county affairs. His father, James Wright, was



born in Leeds, England, Oct. 17, 1818, and was left an orphan at an early age—his father having died before the birth of the son, and the mother dying two years later. After the death of his mother, James was cared for by an aunt for some time, but, at the age of nine years, came to America with a cloth-finisher to whom he had been "bound out" before leaving his native country. As a consequence of his early orphanage, he was largely dependent upon his own resources and was entirely self-educated, but became well read, acquiring a practical education through his own efforts. After coming to America he worked for a number of years in a woolen mill, and finally married Elizabeth Kellett, who was born in Leeds, England, Sept. 11, 1823, the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Pearson) Kellett. The father, Samuel Kellett, was a native of England, was married there to Mary Pearson, and, in 1839, came with his family to America. His children were: John, Thomas, William, Samuel, Ann and Elizabeth, besides an adopted daughter named Eliza—all born in England. Samuel Kellett first settled in New England, where he lived for a number of years, when he removed with his family to Minnesota, settling in Goodhue County of that State at an early period. He owned 160 acres of land there, which he improved and on which he spent the remainder of his life, living to the venerable age of ninety-six years. In religious belief he was a Methodist, and was a highly respected citizen.

James Wright, the father of Pearson Kellett Wright, came to Kenosha County, Wis., in 1855, and there bought an improved farm of 143 acres. This he still further improved, and spent there the last years of his life. He was a Republican in political sentiment and, during the Civil War, tendered his services to the Government as a soldier, but was not accepted on account of physical disability. His children were: Mary A., Thomas W., Joseph W., Albert S., Elizabeth W., James L., George W., Edwin E., John F., Pearson K., Ella and Nellie R. Mr. Wright died on his farm in Kenosha County at the age of sixty-two years.

Pearson K. Wright, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born at Randall, near Kenosha, Wis., June 3, 1862. He received a common-school education in his native State, attending school during the winter months while working on the farm in the summer, until nineteen years of age. In 1884 he came to Richmond,

McHenry County, and engaged in the meat-market business. Six years later (1890) he bought a half-interest in the "Richmond Gazette," as the partner of Fred E. Holmes, and has since been one of the editors and proprietors of that prosperous local paper. In politics he is a Republican of conservative views, and, governed by strong common sense, entertains broad and liberal ideas on questions connected with national affairs. Mr. Wright was married March 26, 1885, to Sarah L. Motley, who was born in Richmond Township, McHenry County, August 20, 1865, the daughter of Robert and Ann (Sill) Motley, and they have one son, Pearson Ellis. Mr. Wright is a member of Richmond Lodge A. F. & A. M., in which he held the office of Senior Warden three years and Secretary three years; is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and, in the latter organization, has held the office of Consul for seven years, and was Clerk for one year. As a citizen he enjoys the respect of the community.

Robert Motley, the father of Mrs. Wright, was born in England, adopted the vocation of a farmer and, while still a young man, came to America, locating first in the city of Chicago. Here he married Ann Sill, the daughter of Peter Sill, a resident of Richmond Township, McHenry County, but a native of England. After coming to McHenry County, Mr. Motley settled on a tract of forty acres of land, but prospered and made additions to his holdings, until he was the owner of 205 acres and one of the substantial farmers of Richmond Township. His children were: William, Clara, Florence, Edward, Charles, Sarah, Jennie and Alice. In politics Mr. Motley was a Republican, a man of integrity and of industrious and thrifty character.

#### ROLLIN WAITE.

Rollin Waite is a son of a pioneer in McHenry County and comes of a pre-revolutionary New England family of English ancestry. The American progenitor of the family located at Cambridge, Vt. David Wait—as he spelled the name—was Rollin Waite's grandfather, and his father was a Revolutionary soldier. He married Fanny Lilly, of an old New England family, and had children named: John, Lewis, Jason, Fanny, Melissa, Mary, Amity, and Loren. Mr. Waite, who was a blacksmith by trade, moved to Illinois sometime



before 1840 from Burlington, Vt., by way of Lake Champlain, the Erie Canal and the lakes west of Buffalo. He landed at Waukegan and bought and improved a farm of 160 acres at Wauconda, Lake County, where he died at the age of about eighty years. He was a man of high character, a member of the Congregational church and politically an old line Whig.

Lewis Waite, father of Rollin Waite, was born in Willbury, Mass., Jan. 23, 1810, was educated so far as possible in the common schools near his home, and married Mary A. Perkins, Oct. 30, 1831. Miss Perkins was born at Weathersfield, Vt., Dec. 30, 1815. After fifteen years residence at Cambridge Centre, Vt., they came west to Wauconda by way of the canal and the lakes. Mr. Waite lived one year on his father's farm and the next year (1848) rented a farm at Griswold Lake, which his son worked while the father was employed at wagon-making at McHenry—for he was a natural mechanic and could do work when necessary as a carpenter, brick-mason, a wheelwright or a carriage-painter—in fact, could make almost anything that could be made with tools. In December, 1849, he settled at McHenry, where, in 1852, he built a wagon-shop. For many years he was a leading carriage manufacturer of that town, and, after his retirement, did mechanical work from time to time until too old to work longer. He acquired twelve town lots in the northern part of McHenry and prospered otherwise. He became a Republican at the organization of that party. He and his wife are members of the Universalist church. They had children as follows born at Cambridge, Vt.: George B., May 8, 1832; Rollin, August 5, 1834; Cornelia, Nov. 6, 1836; DeWitt C. Jan. 3, 1839; Lucinda M., April 16, 1841, and Lucy Ann, May 17, 1842, who died August 6, 1850. William T. was born in Lake County, Feb. 27, 1848 and the following in McHenry County: Electa K., April 9, 1851; Charles P., Nov. 21, 1853; Evelyn and Edward (twins), March 19, 1856, the latter dying when six months old. William T. lives in Kansas City, Mo.; Electa K., Charles P. and Evelyn, live at McHenry, Ill. De Witt C., George B. and William T. Waite were Federal soldiers in the Civil War. The father of this respectable family died in 1892.

Mary A. (Perkins) Waite, mother of Rollin

Waite, was a daughter of Thomas H. and Lucinda (Marsh) Perkins. Lucinda Marsh was born in Hartland, Vt., Nov. 28, 1787, and Thomas H. Perkins in Pomfret, Vt., August 12, 1789. They were married May 18, 1812. Mr. Marsh was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The closing years of his life were passed at Woodstock, Vt., where he died. Thomas H. Perkins learned the trade of a blacksmith and, early in life, located at Cambridge, Vt., where he established a trip-hammer, which furnished employment to many men. He moved from there to Johnson, Vt., and thence to Illinois, and assisted to build the plank road between Waukegan and Libertyville, located eventually at Fremont Centre, Lake County, and died at Volo, Oct. 2, 1864. He was until the organization of the Republican party, a Whig, afterwards becoming a Republican. He was a member of the Christian church and his wife a Methodist. The following record of births was taken from the old Perkins family Bible: John Perkins, Jan. 12, 1773; David, Nov. 2, 1774; Gaius, Jan. 4, 1777; Elijah, May 12, 1782; Patience, Dec. 12, 1783; James March 12, 1786; Cyrus, Dec. 10, 1787; Thomas H., August 8, 1789; Polly, Jan. 23, 1791; Joseph, Jan. 14, 1793; Simeon, July 13, 1798. Adeline Perkins was born at Weathersfield, Vt., August 20, 1813; Mary Ann Perkins, at the same place, Dec. 30, 1815; Cynthia Perkins, Oct. 20, 1817; Lucy Keys Perkins, August 23, 1822; Charles Marsh Perkins, at Cambridge, Vt., Dec. 27, 1825; Edwin Perkins, at Cambridge, Vt., Oct. 16, 1827; Clarece Linden Lathrop, at Fremont, Vt., April 4, 1836. Lucy K. Noble, died at Waukegan, Ill., July 3, 1856.

Rollin Waite was between twelve and thirteen years old when his parents came to Illinois. He had attended the common schools at Cambridge, Vt., and continued his education at McHenry. The family located at McHenry in 1849, a few months after the seat of justice of the county, was removed to Woodstock, and the old court house became a part of what was afterward known as the McHenry hotel. The school was taught in those days by Miss Caroline Fay, in a frame building on the site of the Universalist church. Among those who were Mr. Waite's school-mates were Henry and John Whiteman and William, Jeff, and Al. Hankins—all of whom became well known in

Chicago, and some of whom achieved national reputation. William Hankins, father of the Hankins boys, was a pioneer in McHenry County, coming from New York City, and was a gold-seeker in California about 1850. Jeff went overland to California in charge of an outfit, began to gamble and lost his money, then struck luck in the mines. With the capital thus acquired he opened a gambling-house in San Francisco and made a fortune there. Eventually he met his father, who was with him in the rush for Pike's Peak, and whom he finally brought home to McHenry, where the elder Hankins died. Jeff and William Hankins were hard working boys in the pioneer town in the days of their youth. They supported and always helped their mother, and Jeff at one time sent her \$1,000 which she loaned to the school board at McHenry. Mr. Waite often worked with the Hankins boys at haying and at other employment. Al, who is the only survivor of the family, lives in Chicago, and was once reputed wealthy, but is said to have lost his property. John I. Story was another of Mr. Waite's schoolmates. Rollin Waite learned the wagonmaker's trade with his father, and drifted into carpentry and building. At eighteen he went to Michigan, and was employed in a saw mill. After marriage, which was celebrated Jan. 1, 1860, he engaged in building at McHenry, and achieved considerable success. In 1871 he went to Emporia, Kansas, where he worked for a time at his trade. For four years and half he was a builder at Elgin, Ill. He erected a fine residence for Al. Hankins at Hebron, Ind. Politically he is a staunch Republican; was appointed Postmaster at McHenry by President McKinley, and has proved an efficient and popular official. He was received as an Entered Apprentice, passed the Fellow Craft degree, and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in McHenry Lodge, No. 158, A. F. & A. M., of which he has been Senior Warden; also took the degrees of Capitular Masonry in Chapter No. 36, at Woodstock, and was exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch-Mason, received the degrees of Chivalric Masonry in Calvary Commandery, No. 25, K. T., of Woodstock, and was constituted, dubbed and created a Knight Templar. Mr. Waite loves to talk of the pioneer days, and can tell more good stories of the days that are gone than

there is space for record here. The winter of 1847 was severe and the snow was deep and thickly encrusted. He was a mere boy then living at Wauconda. One day he heard that seven deer had been chased by dogs over the snow crusts and were staggering about, cut and bleeding, on the frozen surface of Bangs Lake, unable to make any progress on the ice. Arvilla Hotton, one of Mr. Waite's school-mates, was a strapping sixteen year old pioneer lass, whom the stoutest boy in the settlement could not have worsted in a wrestling match—an athletic back-woods Tom-boy, who delighted to ride a horse at break-neck speed over the prairie or through the woods, standing on its back. When this girl saw the plight of the seven deer, she borrowed a butcher knife of a neighbor and went out on the ice and cut the throats of all of them.

Mr. Waite married Mary Ann Britton, who was born in the State of New York in 1839, and whose father, peddling a stock of goods overland, enroute for California, was supposed to have been murdered by some people with whom he had stopped for the night, and whose cupidity had been excited by the sight of some of his belongings. Mrs. Waite, who is a model wife and mother and a consistent and helpful member of the Methodist Episcopal church at McHenry, has borne her husband seven children: Adel, who died in infancy; Eloise; Carrie M., who died when a young woman; Glen G., Alice G., Earl J., and Mildred, who died at the age of sixteen years.

#### FREEMAN WHITING.

Freeman Whiting, veteran farmer and pioneer settler of McHenry County, traces his lineage through early settlers in Connecticut and Vermont to English-Puritan ancestry. His father, Zachariah Whiting, was born in the State of Connecticut, Sept. 24, 1789, served as a soldier in the War of 1812, and was a farmer and wheel-wright by occupation, but after removing to Johnson, Vt., was engaged for a time in merchandising. He was married at Johnson, Vt., July 31, 1815, to Lucinda Dodge, who was born Feb. 13, 1800, the daughter of Amos Dodge, a pioneer settler in the vicinity of Johnson, where he cleared up a farm in the forest. Mr. Dodge was a prominent citizen in that locality and had children named Jonathan, Amos, Daniel, Solomon,



Lucinda and Sally. Amos Dodge, the father of Mrs. Whiting, died at Johnson, Vt., at the age of sixty-five to seventy years. Zachariah Whiting settled on a farm at Johnson, containing between 300 and 400 acres, now owned by his son Almon. His children were: Almon, born Sept. 8, 1816, died in infancy; Hannah, born March 6, 1819; Freeman, born June 8, 1822; Amos D., born July 27, 1824; Zachariah, born Dec. 25, 1826; Almon (2), born Nov. 15, 1829; Sarah L., born Sept. 18, 1832, and Arthur O., born Jan. 9, 1838. Zachariah Whiting, Sr., died in Johnson, Vt., Oct. 31, 1861, aged seventy-two years.

Freeman Whiting, born in Johnson, Vt., June 8, 1822, was reared on a farm, receiving a common-school education, and was employed in his father's store at Johnson for some years. In 1843 he came by lake vessel from Buffalo to Chicago, and walked from the latter place to McHenry, where he hired out to John W. Smith, who had recently bought the historic log tavern of Benjamin B. Brown. He continued in the employment of Mr. Smith seven months, when he returned to his former home in Vermont, but becoming tired of plowing among the rocks of the "Green Mountain State," his thoughts reverted to the smooth prairie soil of Illinois. So again turning his face westward, in the fall of 1844, he arrived at Waukegan, Ill., where he entered into the employment of Willard Smith, remaining two years, when he removed to McHenry County, and there bought 160 acres of land which now constitutes a part of his home farm. This land had upon it some small improvements. On January 8, 1850, he was married, in McHenry Township, to Miss Lucy A. Smith, who had been born at Johnson, Vt., April 18, 1832, the daughter of John W. and Clarissa (Clemmens) Smith. John W. Smith was born in Johnson, Vt., the son of Aaron and Hitty (Hawley) Smith—the former, born May 6, 1765, and the latter, Jan. 9, 1775. Aaron Smith was of New England Puritan ancestry, a well-to-do farmer and a prominent citizen. He married Hitty Hawley, Nov. 10, 1787, and they had children born as follows: Samuel, Feb. 12, 1789; Abijah, Feb. 7, 1781; Samuel (2), Aug. 27, 1795; Lemuel, May 5, 1799; Abel C., April 25, 1801; John Wire, Sept. 12, 1803; John Wire (2), July 12, 1805; Hitty, Nov. 1, 1807; Harriet H. A., Jan. 26, 1810; Betsy, Jan. 9, 1812.

John W. Smith received a common-school education in his native State of Vermont, became a farmer and still later a merchant, and married, at Johnson, Vt., Clarissa Clemmens, who was born in November, 1824. After marriage he settled on a farm at Hyde Park, Vt., but in the fall of 1841 removed with his family to McHenry County, Ill., and purchased a partly improved farm at Griswold Lake. The journey west was made by way of the lakes to Chicago and thence by team to McHenry County. Four years later he removed to McHenry village and bought the Brown Log-Cabin Tavern, which he carried on several years, when he moved to what is known as "Smith's Corners," where he built a store and a wagon-shop as the beginning of a town. The construction of a railroad without touching the projected town site caused the death of this enterprise, and Mr. Smith removed his store to McHenry. The building he there occupied is now in the possession of Mr. Lawless a merchant tailor. A few years later, in company with his nephew, David Smith, he built the Riverside House. In his mercantile business he had as a partner, Patrick Cassidy, but Mr. Smith continued to live on his farm at Smith's Corners, where he had a fine property of 480 acres of land, besides a large amount of land elsewhere, and some valuable property in Chicago, which was destroyed by the great fire of 1871. Mr. Smith was a Methodist in religious belief and in politics a Jacksonian Democrat. He and his wife had the following named children: Caroline Maria, Lucy A., Emily, Laura, Clarissa, John M., and Philo D. Mrs. Clarissa (Clemmens) Smith having died, John W. Smith was later married at Nunda, McHenry County, to Cynthia A. Griswold, and they had children named Julia, Theodore H., Willard E., Edward A., Julius D. and Almon N. Mr. Smith was a man of great force of character and a sagacious and active business man, being engaged during his career in a number of important enterprises. Among these was the breeding of Durham Short-horn cattle, in which he was quite successful.

After his marriage to Miss Lucy A. Smith, Freeman Whiting settled on the farm adjoining that on which he now lives. Originally consisting of 160 acres, he made additions to it until he was the owner of 1,000 acres. A part of this he has given to his children, but



still retains about 600 acres. For a number of years past he has been engaged in the breeding of Durham Short-horns, in which he has been successful. His marked success as a business man has been due to his energy and sagacious management.

Mr. and Mr. Whiting have had children named Delbert A., Laura A., Lillian C. and Abby L. In politics he is a Republican of the Abraham Lincoln stamp, and, as a farmer, his career has been as notable for its success as for practical good sense.

#### CHARLES WANDRACK.

Charles Wandrack, one of the leading business men of Algonquin, Ill., was born in Chicago, Ill., Nov., 6, 1856, the son of Joseph and Mary (Dworck) Wandrack. Joseph Wandrack was of Bohemian parentage and born in Austria, March 19, 1829. In his younger days he learned the harness-maker's trade, and in 1855, came to America. Arriving at New York, he came directly to Chicago, where he worked at his trade until June, 1866, when he moved to Algonquin, McHenry County, and opened a harness shop, where he lived until his death in 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Wandrack were the parents of Charles, Nettie, Nellie and John. In religious belief he was a member of the Catholic church, and in politics affiliated with the Republican party.

Charles Wandrack received his primary education in the public schools of Chicago, and coming to Algonquin with his parents when nine years of age, he gained the remainder of his education in the public schools of that village. Having learned the harness maker's trade of his father, he continued to conduct the old shop after his father's death—which occurred when Charles was twenty-one years old—until 1881, when he engaged in business for himself, meeting with good success from the beginning.

December 11, 1883, Mr. Wandrack married at Eau Claire, Wis., Alba T. Argard, who was born in Chicago, Ill., Nov. 21, 1858, the daughter of M. J. Argard. Mr. Argard is a native of Norway, but latter in life settled in Chicago, where he engaged in the hardware business, afterwards moving to Eau Claire, Wis., and at the present time (1902) is living in Tennessee. His children are: Alba T., George, Emma, Rose and Lillie (twins). Charles Wandrack

is a man of upright character, who, by practical business experience and a careful study of the daily press and books of standard merit, has added to the common-school education obtained in his younger days, and is now well informed on general topics. In his youth Mr. Wandrack began to take an active interest in politics. He cast his first vote for James A. Garfield, and has been a member of the McHenry Republican Committee for the past twelve years. He was President of the Algonquin Village Board four terms, refusing to serve after 1901; was one of the Trustees of the Village Board from 1895 to 1897, and a member of the Water-Works Committee in which he rendered much valuable service in securing the present system of water-works for Algonquin. Mr. Wandrack was Deputy Sheriff under Sheriffs Udell and Eckert, and at the present time, holds the office of Chief Deputy under Sheriff Keys. Fraternally he is a member of the Cary Station Lodge, I. O. O. F., the Modern Woodmen of America at Algonquin—having passed all the chairs in both lodges—and is also a member of the Royal Neighbors. Mr. Wandrack is descended from sterling ancestry, and possessing a large, stalwart figure, is an excellent representative of the hardy native race of people to which he belongs. He is a recognized leader in all local athletic contests, and won the second prize in the St. George's Society, Chicago, on the Queen's birthday, besides winning several first prizes in Elgin, Ill. A man of friendly disposition and pleasing manners, he enjoys the utmost confidence and respect of a large circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Wandrack are parents of two children: Lura May, born Dec. 7, 1884, and Martin Joseph, born Nov. 21, 1886.

#### ALFRED WILCOX.

Alfred Wilcox, one of the substantial pioneer settlers of Richmond, McHenry County, comes from a family of English extraction, who settled in Maryland during the colonial period. Isaiah Wilcox, grandfather of Alfred, resided in Maryland, but later settled in Herkimer County, N. Y., where he died at the venerable age of ninety years. He served in the navy during the Revolutionary War.

Isaiah Wilcox, Jr., born Nov. 30, 1790, the

father of Alfred Wilcox, was a well-to-do farmer and stock-buyer, and also conducted a mercantile business. He married in Herkimer County, N. Y., Betsy Lovina Thomas, born in Herkimer County, June 10, 1792. Her father was a farmer and moved to Illinois about 1836, settling one mile west of Richmond. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox settled in Herkimer County, where he owned two farms, and, like his father, became a farmer, stock-buyer and merchant. They were the parents of the following named children: Polly, Isaiah, Nancy J., Lydia R., Betsy L., Amos T., Irving A., Lucius, Thomas J., Azuba and Alfred. Mrs. Wilcox died July 14, 1835, and Mr. Wilcox married in Herkimer County, Jane Coughfry, who bore him one son, William P., who served as a soldier in the Civil War and was wounded at the first battle of Bull Run. Shortly after his second marriage, Mr. Wilcox removed to McKean County, Penn., where he bought 1,400 acres of land upon which he had begun to make improvements when he died, Nov. 22, 1840. He was a member of the Baptist church.

Alfred Wilcox, the immediate subject of this article, was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., Dec. 8, 1832, and when a boy four years of age, moved with his father to McKean County, Penn., where he lived eight years. In June, 1844, he came with his older brother, Amos T., to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey by the lakes to Kenosha (then Southport), Wis., whence they proceeded directly to Richmond, McHenry County, where a family of relatives (the Thomases) lived. Young Alfred lived with his brother-in-law, Walter Brush, three months, and then accompanied him to Ft. Atkinson, Jefferson County, Wis., where he attended school for six months. At an early age, he engaged in farm labor in Dodge County, Wis., where for two years he worked on the farm through the summer season and attended school during the intervening winter months.

February 23, 1861, Mr. Wilcox was married in Richmond, Ill., to Mary Eliza Martin, born in Cheshire, Berkshire County, Mass., Feb. 22, 1836, the daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Rider) Martin. After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wilcox settled in Hebron Township, where they purchased eighty acres of land upon which they made substantial improvements.

In 1881 they moved to Richmond Township and purchased the old Martin homestead, but five years later removed to the village of Richmond, where they now reside. In political opinion Mr. Wilcox is a staunch Republican, and for five years served his fellow-citizens of Hebron Township as Supervisor, and has been a member of the Richmond Town Council for several years. Fraternally he is a member of the Richmond Lodge, A. F. & A. M. Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox are the parents of two children: the older, Estella Mary, married William Foley, a business man of Richmond, and they have three children,—Frank Wilcox, Cora May and William Russell; the other child, Benjamin A., died in childhood.

Benjamin Martin, the father of Mrs. Alfred Wilcox, was descended from a Puritan-English family, who were among the founders of the old Massachusetts Colony, and a son of Edward and Mary (Chase) Martin, whose children were named Benjamin C., James, Diana, Leonard L., Chloe M., Polly, Lydia A. and Emily J. Mr. and Mrs. Martin were married in Berkshire County, Mass., Dec. 25, 1831, and resided there for five years, when, in 1836, they removed to and settled in Westford, Otsego County, N. Y. In 1846 they moved to Illinois, making the journey by way of the Erie Canal and the lakes to Chicago, and thence with teams to Richmond, McHenry County, where they arrived in May of the same year. Mr. Martin bought a farm, consisting of 120 acres of partly improved land, situated two and a half miles west of the village of Richmond, upon which he resided for many years. In 1881 having retired from active life, he sold his farm and moved to the village of Richmond. In politics he was a staunch Republican, and was also a member of the old New York State militia. Mr. and Mrs. Martin were the parents of but one child, Mary Eliza (Mrs. Alfred Wilcox.)

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#### ROBERT WEGG.

Robert Wegg, a representative pioneer settler from the British Isles, was born at Elham, Norfolk County, England, Jan. 18, 1820, the son of George and Martha (Boyce) Wegg. He received a common-school education in the subscription schools of England and learned the carpenter's trade of his father. In 1835, while



still a boy, he went to Sussex with an older brother named William, and here completed his trade as a carpenter, following the same in the city of London until 1851. In August, 1843, he married Lucy Murray, born March 18, 1818, near Norwich, England, daughter of Josiah Murray. Josiah Murray was a carpenter and lived a great many years in Norwich, and his children were: Mary Ann, who married a Mr. Hunt; Elizabeth, who married Mr. Polner; James; Josiah, and Lucy. Mr. Murray was a member of the Baptist church and died in England at a venerable age.

After marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wegg continued to live in London where he followed his trade. May 1, 1851, they sailed from Liverpool to Quebec in a sailing-vessel called the "Helen," and bringing with them their entire family. Mr. Wegg went to St. Thomas, Canada, where he lived six years as a contractor and builder, and on August 12, 1857, moved to Richmond, McHenry County, Ill., following the same business there, taking contracts for many of the best buildings in Richmond, among them being the residence of George and Frank McConnell, E. Covell, Elijah Bowers, Fred Maure, the McConnell Bank Building, Columbia Hotel, Baptist church, and a great many other buildings in Richmond, Geneva and Twin Lakes. Mr. Wegg is his own architect, and is very skillful in modern styles of the art, being the designer of his own residence, which is a very attractive structure. Fraternally Mr. Wegg is a non-affiliated member of the I. O. O. F. His children are Emma E. and Robert W. Mr. Wegg still continues in active business at the advanced age of eighty-one years.

George Wegg, the father, was long a resident of Elham, England, a carpenter by trade and possessed great skill in the handling of carpenter's tools, besides being an expert millwright and general mechanic. He died in Elham, aged seventy-five years. His children by the first marriage were: George, William, Hannah, Mariah and Robert. Mr. Wegg's first wife died and he married as his second wife Lucy Murray, there being no children by this marriage. Mr. Wegg's father and mother both lived to be over one hundred years of age, and he had an uncle, John, who lived to celebrate his one hundred and fourteenth birthday. Mr. Wegg was a member of the Church of England.

Emma Elizabeth Wegg, daughter of Robert Wegg, was born in London, England, March 8, 1846, and came to Richmond with her parents when eleven years of age. She attended the High School in Canada and married, on Sept. 28, 1870, C. M. Kendall, D. D. S. They lived in Richmond four years and then moved to Woodstock where they resided until May 9, 1893, when Dr. Kendall died. Mrs. Kendall married as her second husband, on Jan. 18, 1894, Dr. J. L. Newman, D. D. S. Dr. Newman died in Chicago, June 14, 1900, and Mrs. Newman returned to Richmond to care for her father, her mother having died Dec. 9, 1896.

Dr. Cassius M. Kendall was for many years the principal dentist in Woodstock and McHenry County. He was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., July 1, 1839, and received a thorough preliminary education at Linn, N. Y., and then studied dentistry at Carlisle. He came to Richmond, Ill., about 1863, and began the practice of dentistry, being the first dentist to settle in the town and soon proved himself to be skillful in the practice of his profession. He married in Wyoming County, N. Y., Carrie Thayer, who died a few years after they moved to Richmond. After his marriage to Emma Wegg, he attended the Philadelphia Dental College, from which he graduated, receiving the degree of D. D. S. in 1875. He was a man of sterling worth, well read in the current periodicals pertaining to his profession, and the first dentist to administer gas in McHenry County. In politics he was a Republican and reached a high degree in Masonry. He was a member of the Calvary Commandery, Number 25, K. T. of Woodstock, Ill., and filled every position in the Commandery from that of Warden to Eminent Commander. He was a member of the Town Council of Woodstock, where he rendered efficient services. The Doctor was a man of excellent character, genial disposition and was deeply mourned by a large circle of friends. He died May 9, 1893. Several young men, who became skillful dentists, received their training under his careful supervision.

Mr. Wegg has always been a man in favor of public improvements, and has always been known as being extremely careful and reliable in carrying out the full measure of his contracts.



**JOHN WHITWORTH.**

The Oliver Typewriter Company, of Woodstock, McHenry County, has an efficient and capable manager in the person of Mr. John Whitworth, who assumed the duties of that position in 1898. Mr. Whitworth was born in England, Jan. 30, 1858, and is descended from a family who have been prominently identified with important manufacturing enterprises, his father, Walter Whitworth, being a skilled mechanical engineer as well as a capitalist. Mr. Walter Whitworth introduced the manufacture of cotton cloth into Russia, and was one of the builders and owners of the first cotton mill in that empire.

John Whitworth, of Woodstock, received an excellent education in select boarding schools in his native country, and, at nineteen years of age, came to seek his fortune in America. He had been preceded here by his brother Thomas, who is now manager and superintendent of the Piano and Organ Supply Company of Chicago, which is the largest concern of its kind in the United States. After coming to America John Whitworth entered into the employment of the Fitchburg Railroad Company of Massachusetts, with which he remained two years. He then came to Chicago and became associated with E. P. Preston & Co., in furnishing fire department supplies. Beginning here in a humble capacity, by industry, capability and strict attention to his duties, he worked his way to the superintendency of the mercantile department of the company. Later he became superintendent of the Fowler Cycle Company, continuing in that position two years when, in 1898, he came to Woodstock to assume the management of the plant of the "Oliver Typewriter" Company, in which he is also a stockholder. His success in this position is indicated by the marked advancement that has been manifest in both the quantity and quality of the output of the manufacturing department under his management, and in the very large increase that has been made in the number of machines produced and the higher degree of perfection that has been attained in a machine which has grown rapidly in popularity and for which there has been a constantly increasing demand.

Mr. Whitworth was married to Miss Jennie Clark, of Chicago, and they have one son,

Walter S. They have made their home in Woodstock. Mr. Whitworth enjoys in the highest degree the respect and confidence of his business associates and the employes of the Oliver Typewriter Company, as well as the general public of Woodstock and McHenry County.

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**EMIL WINDMUELLER, M. D.**

In 1894 a young physician came to Woodstock, whose youthful appearance bore out the impression of a student from a German University. He opened an office and, before many months, it became known that the new physician was effecting many cures and had already established a good practice. As time passed, his reputation became more widely known as one of the most skillful physicians and surgeons of McHenry County. His uniform success as a surgeon, in the early stage of his practice, gave to him the deserved credit of being an expert in this department, and a large proportion of the surgical cases from the surrounding country came under his care and, without exception, were treated with satisfactory results. The Germans are noted for their thorough and accurate research in all branches of scientific study, and their institutions for the special treatment of disease in all its forms have obtained a deservedly wide reputation, and it is probable that Dr. Windmueller owes much of his recognized skill in surgery to characteristics inherited from his German ancestry.

Dr. Windmueller was born in Oldenburg, Germany, June 28, 1869, the son of Frederick and Sophia (Meyer) Windmueller. To Frederick Windmueller and wife were born, in their native Germany, the following named children: Emil, Frederick (who died at the age of twenty-two years), and John, now a druggist in Chicago. The mother died in Germany and Frederick Windmueller was married in his native country to Anna Franz. In 1881 the family came to Milwaukee, Wis., where the father conducted a real-estate business for some time.

At the time the family came to America, Emil Windmueller was about twelve years of age. He had already received a good primary education in the Fatherland, and, after coming to Milwaukee, attended the public and high school in that city. In 1883 he became a clerk in a Milwaukee drug-store and later attended the School of Pharmacy for a year (1889) in

Chicago, after which until 1890, he was engaged in the drug business at Lake Geneva, Wis., in Chicago and at Shreveport, La. During the latter year he entered Rush Medical College in Chicago, where he took a thorough course, graduating in 1894, also taking a post-graduate course at the Chicago Polyclinic. Immediately after graduation, he established himself in practice at Woodstock, as already noted, where within the last eight years he has won a marked success in his profession.

During the year of his location at Woodstock, Dr. Windmueller was married at Lake Geneva, Wis., to Miss Julia Seymour, the daughter of William and Helen (Garfield) Seymour of that place. Both the Seymours and the Garfields are of old New England ancestry. Dr. Windmueller and wife have one daughter named Helen.

In his political opinions Dr. Windmueller is a Republican, and fraternally is a member of Woodstock Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; of the Modern Woodmen of America, for which he is Examining Physician; of the Knights of Macca-bees, and several other fraternal orders. He is also surgeon in McHenry County for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Company.

As already indicated in the preceding portions of this sketch, Dr. Windmueller has established for himself a high reputation as a progressive physician, which has been recognized in the official positions which he now holds. He is a close observer and ardent student, and has familiarized himself with all recent discoveries in medicine and modern improvements in surgery, which has made such marked advancement during the past few years. As an up-to-date member of the profession, he is, of course, well supplied with the most modern instruments.

Apart from his profession, Dr. Windmueller is known as an enterprising citizen who is ever abreast of the times, and he has the distinction of having introduced the first automobile upon the streets of Woodstock. In the prime of his professional career and with a past which has been notable for its success, there is no exaggeration in predicting for him a most promising future.

#### WILLIAM E. WIRE.

William E. Wire, educator and Superintendent of Schools, McHenry County, was born in Greenwood, McHenry County, March 27, 1858,

the son of John and Badelia (Brady) Wire. Both parents were descended from Scotch-Irish ancestry from County Armagh, Ireland. The Wires came to America in a sailing-vessel from Liverpool, about 1824, the voyage to New York occupying five weeks. The parents of this family—who were the grandparents of the subject of this sketch—both died in Castle Garden soon after their arrival, leaving two children, John and Delia. The latter died in infancy, leaving John, who was an infant when his parents came to this country—having been born in County Armagh, Ireland, in 1824—the sole survivor. He was taken care of and reared to manhood by a Mr. Alexander, an uncle on his mother's side, in New Hampshire. After he grew up he became foreman for his uncle, who was engaged in contract work on railroads. He finally married at Westboro, Mass., Badelia Brady, who was born Nov. 7, 1824, in County Westmeath, Ireland, where her father was a merchant. Her parents' other children were: James, Rose, Jane, Ann and Thomas. The father remained in Ireland, where he died at the age of eighty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. John Wire remained for some time after their marriage at Westboro, Mass., where he continued in contract work, but in 1856, on account of failing health, removed to McHenry County, Ill., and settled in Greenwood Township, where he died in 1858. The children of Mr. and Mrs. John Wire were: John Henry, Mary, Eliza, Badelia, Nellie and William E. The father was a member of the Presbyterian church and, in political opinions, a Jacksonian Democrat. After the death of her husband, being left practically without means, the responsibility for bringing up the family devolved upon Mrs. Wire, but she was equal to the occasion, proving herself a faithful and devoted mother. She still survives in Greenwood Township at the age of seventy-eight years.

William E. Wire grew up in Greenwood Township, and early engaged in any employment which offered itself by way of assisting his mother in support of the family, meanwhile attending the public school during the winter months. In this way he acquired the usual common-school education. He was diligent, persevering and studious, which is more than half the battle when a boy is determined to gain an education. He finally attended the high school in Woodstock, from which he



graduated in 1872, after which he took a course at the Illinois State Normal University at Normal, Ill. In 1876 he began teaching in McHenry Township, remaining one year, after which he taught for four winters in Hebron Township, while working on the farm in the summer. Other places in which he taught included the Spring Grove village school in Burton Township where he was Principal, and the Solon village school for two years, after which he was invited to accept the principalship of the graded schools at Greenwood, where he remained seven years. Then, after retirement from school work on account of impaired health, he spent a year in charge of the schools at Hebron. By his long and successful experience, Mr. Wire acquired a wide reputation as an accomplished teacher and capable disciplinarian. In 1890 he was elected County Superintendent of Schools for McHenry County and, by repeated re-elections, is now (1902) serving his third term. Under his administration much useless and effete material has been discarded, and the schools of the county have been advanced to a high degree of efficiency.

On July 15, 1885, Mr. Wire was married at Spring Grove, McHenry County, to Josephine Craine, born at Spring Grove, July 6, 1857, the daughter of John and Jane (Cain) Craine. Her father was born on the Isle of Man, of old Manx stock, and came to Richmond Township, McHenry County, in 1850, where he became a prosperous farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Craine were the parents of the following named children: Catherine, Marion, John, Josephine and Emma. Mr. Craine was a Republican and an active member of the Methodist church. He died at the age of about seventy-four years.

After marriage William E. Wire and wife settled in Greenwood, and in 1889 removed to Hebron, where he bought residence property and a farm of eighty acres adjoining the village. Politically he is a stanch Republican and takes an active interest in public affairs. He served seven years as Town Clerk of Greenwood Township. His repeated re-election to the office of County Superintendent affords strong evidence of his personal popularity and the high estimate in which his services are held as an educator. In addition to his other public services, Mr. Wire was also one of the chief promoters and organizers of the McHenry County Teachers' Institute.

John Henry Wire, the oldest brother of William E., ran away from home at the age of fourteen years to become a soldier in the Civil

War, enlisting as a private in Company G., Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He took part in many battles in one of which he was badly wounded. After serving three years, he re-enlisted as a veteran, and, in the latter part of his second term of enlistment, saw service in campaigns against the Indians on the plains. He was one of the youngest of the soldiers who served in the Civil War.

#### PETER J. WELBON.

Peter J. Welbon, who is of a pioneer family of McHenry County, has been a resident of Hebron Township nearly all his life. The Welbon family is of English ancestry, John Welbon, the father of Peter J., having been born in London, England, about 1815, a son of John Welbon, who came to America about 1830. John Welbon, Sr., and his family landed at New York, and immediately afterwards settled on a farm in Oneida County, of the same State, where he died at a venerable age. His children were: Peter, Rachael, Hannah, Charity and John.

John Welbon, Jr., was about fifteen years of age when he came to America with his father's family. He received a common-school education and learned the stone mason's trade. He was married in New York State to Ann, a daughter of John Holland. Mr. Holland was a native of England, came to America with his father's family in 1831, and settled in Oneida County, N. Y., where he became a substantial citizen and owned an estate of 400 acres. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Holland were: John, James, Alison, Mary and Ann. Mr. Holland was a very successful farmer and lived to be ninety years of age.

John Welbon, Jr., settled in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1845, coming to McHenry County and settling in Hebron Township, where he bought forty acres of Government land at \$1.25 per acre. Here he built a log house and, being an industrious and enterprising man, made subsequent additions to his first purchase until he finally owned a good 80-acre farm. Mr. and Mrs. Welbon were the parents of Elizabeth, Peter J., Evaline, John and Mary. Mr. Welbon died in 1854, being then but thirty-nine years of age. Mrs. Welbon lived for many years with her daughter, Evaline, in Marshall County, Iowa, and died at State Center, that State, Sept. 13, 1901, aged eighty-one years. She was a woman of high character and a member of the Methodist church.



Peter J. Welbon, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born in Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., Dec. 17, 1842, and being but three years of age when his parents came to Hebron Township, his earliest recollections are of that section of country, which was but slightly improved at that time. Mr. Welbon received his primary education in a log-cabin school-house, and among his schoolmates were the Wilcox children. He afterwards attended school in a frame building that stood on his father's farm. Being but twelve years of age when his father died, he was early inured to farm labor. He remained at home until twenty years of age and then hired out as a farm laborer for four years. January 25, 1866, he was married in Geneva, Wis., to Charlotte Householder, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of Charles and Maria (Casterline) Householder. Both the Householders and Casterlines were of sturdy Pennsylvania Dutch stock.

Charles Householder was born in Pennsylvania, but in early manhood moved to New York State, and later settled on a farm in Indiana, where he was married to Mariah Casterline. In 1852 he moved to Barrington, Ill., and ten years later to Hebron Township, McHenry County, where he purchased a farm of 230 acres and lived the remainder of his days, dying at the age of eighty-one years; his wife dying when seventy-five years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Householder were the parents of the following named children: Phineas, Sarah, Lewis, Mary, Henry, Charlotte, Alva, Phoebe, Charles, Ellen, Catherine and Theodore. One of their sons, Lewis, served in the Civil War..

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Welbon settled on the old Welbon homestead, of which he bought eighty acres, and made subsequent additions to the latter until he owned a fine farm of 145 acres, well improved with substantial buildings. In March, 1893, he bought a pleasant residence in Hebron village, where he and his family have since resided. Aside from being a self-made man, Mr. Welbon, after his father's death, assisted his mother in supporting the younger children of her family. In political opinion he is a Republican, and, as a citizen, is much respected for his upright and high moral character. Mr. and Mrs. Welbon are the parents of Frederick Leslie, Charles Alison, John Harrison and Clyde Elmer. The following facts concerning their children are of interest: Fred L. married Nellie Hawley, who died Dec. 3, 1899, leaving a son, Glen.

Charles A. married Kate Ehle; resides in Hebron, and they have one child, Harold. John H. married Kate Hackett; resides on the Welbon homestead, and they have a daughter, Verona. Clyde E. is a farmer and married Pearl Finch. Mrs. Peter J. Welbon died April 23, 1902.

#### JOHN WELTZIEN.

John Weltzien is one of the substantial self-made business men of Huntley, McHenry County, deriving his descent from sturdy German ancestry. His father, Charles Weltzien, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, Nov. 21, 1819, and had a brother John who came to America in 1864 and settled in Huntley. The father of Charles and John Weltzien was a Russian soldier, but deserted from the army and settled in Germany.

Charles Weltzien married in Mecklenburg, Germany, Frederica Schroeder, and they had children named John, Mary (who is now Mrs. D. H. Haeger of Dundee, Ill.), Charles (who died in 1861, a small boy), Fred, Sopha, Mina, Carrie and Frank. The five oldest children of this family were born in Germany and the remainder in Illinois. For about ten years before coming to America, Charles Weltzien was overseer of a large farm in his native country. In 1857 he came with his family to America, sailing from Hamburg in July on the good ship "Isaac Newton." During the trip they encountered a great many severe storms, landing in New York after a perilous voyage of two months. From New York they came direct to Barrington, Ill., and Mr. Weltzien engaged as a farm laborer near Dundee, where he continued to work for two years. In 1860 he moved to a farm near Huntley, but in 1867 purchased 160 acres northeast of the village, upon which he made substantial improvements and where he lived until advanced in years, when he rented his farm and moved to the village of Huntley, residing there until his death, August 19, 1901, being then about eighty-two years old. He was a member of the German Lutheran church, and contributed liberally toward the support of his church in Huntley, and also assisted in building the church edifice. In political opinions he was a Democrat. He was an industrious and respected man and reared an excellent family.

John Weltzien, the immediate subject of this article, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany,



*Ira Webber*





Dec. 4, 1847, and was less than ten years of age when he came with his parents to America, the incidents of that eventful journey being vividly impressed upon his memory. He had attended school in Germany, and, after coming to America, attended the district schools during the winter and worked at farm labor in the summer season, continuing to employ his time in this manner until about eighteen years of age. In 1874 he engaged to work in a creamery owned by Mr. D. E. Wood, at Huntley, and two years later became Mr. Wood's partner in the business, which he continued successfully for twenty-one years. In 1881 Mr. Weltzien bought a farm of 194 acres adjoining Huntley village on the north, most of which is now within the corporation limits and is being sold as city lots. In 1897, having disposed of his interest in the creamery to the Cornell Brothers, he built his present feed-mill, and, besides doing a successful milling business, carries a stock of brick, tile, wood and coal. Mr. Weltzien is a business man of the utmost reliability and owns much valuable property in Huntley, all being the result of his honest efforts, industrious habits and good management. In political opinion he is a firm believer in the principles advocated by the Republican party, and, as its representative, has served his fellow-citizens of Grafton Township as Supervisor for sixteen years, and many years as a member of the Village Board, being President of the Board for six years.

August 1, 1869, Mr. Weltzien was united in marriage, in Huntley, Ill., to Alice E. Bowen, who was born in Oswego County, N. Y., Dec. 15, 1851 the daughter of Isaac and Harriet (Cook) Bowen and they became the parents of the following named children: Minnie, Lottie, Myrtle, Frank, Grace and Hattie.

Isaac Bowen, father of Mrs. Weltzien, was a soldier in the Civil War and was killed in a skirmish just before the battle of the Wilderness. He belonged to an old American family, his father being Aaron Bowen, a native of New York State. Isaac Bowen married Harriet Cook and their only child was Alice E., now Mrs. Weltzien.

#### IRA WEBBER.

Ira Webber, veteran of the Civil War and farmer, Marengo, Ill., was born at Panama, Chautauqua County, N. Y., Dec. 3,

1830, the son of William and Eliza (Terry) Webber. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, born at Columbia Flats near the New York State line, and was a farmer by occupation, while the Terrys were of Colonial Massachusetts stock. The children of William and Eliza (Terry) Webber were: Sallie, Lorinda, Elmira, William, Elijah, Ira, Marietta, Cornelius, Daniel and Charlotte. Mr. Webber died July 4, 1846, aged about fifty-five years, and his wife, Dec. 4, 1847. They were both members of the Baptist church, and in politics he was an old line Whig. He was an energetic and industrious citizen, and, while living the life of a pioneer in a log house in Chautauqua County, cleared up a farm from that heavily timbered region.

Ira Webber, the son, enjoyed no educational advantages in his early youth, but was brought up to hard work on the farm and in the woods. When about fifteen years of age, his father having died, he began working out for wages, which he continued a number of years. In 1855, having reached the age of nearly twenty-five years, he came to Marengo, McHenry County, and soon after his arrival, began working for Henry Underwood of Riley Township. The following year he went with a party to Minnesota, driving a drove of 100 cattle, the journey occupying six weeks. Mr. Webber then engaged in farm-work for a time in the vicinity of Faribault and Winona, remaining four years, when he returned to McHenry County and entered into the employment of J. St. John, of Riley Township, for about three years. He then worked for a time in Coral Township and, on Sept. 17, 1864, he enlisted at Coral, McHenry County, as a private in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Capt. John Eddy, and was mustered into the service at Marengo, for one year or until the close of the war. After serving about eleven months, on August 18, 1865, Mr. Webber was honorably discharged at Camp Butler, near Springfield, and arrived home August 22. Mr. Webber saw service during his connection with the army about St. Louis, Jefferson City and Sedalia, Mo., in Tennessee taking part in the battle of Nashville in December, 1864, and in the vicinity of Mobile, being engaged in the battle of Spanish Fort. He participated in all the battles, skirmishes, marches and campaigns in which the

regiment was engaged during this time, but was never wounded or a prisoner. After his return from the field he was unable to do any work for some time, but finally, having partially recovered from his disability, he resumed work as he was able on the little farm which he had purchased the year of his enlistment. This consisted of a tract of forty acres without buildings, which he had purchased for the sum of \$800, all of which he had paid up at the time of his enlistment except \$50. All the improvements upon the farm, including buildings, have been made since that date.

On August 20, 1863, Mr. Webber was married, at Beloit Wis., to Caroline Cordelia Bowen, who was born August 20, 1846, the daughter of Franklin and Permelia (Ripley) Bowen. Mr. Bowen, the father, was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., August 5, 1820, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Bowen. John Bowen, who was of New England ancestry, was a native of Cattaraugus County, N. Y., and moved to Chautauqua County at an early day. His first wife having died, he married Nancy Vrooman. The children by the first marriage were: Freeman, Rena, John, Franklin, Antoinette, Harvey and Adelia; and those by his second wife, Angeline, Helen and Earl. John Bowen moved to McHenry County, Ill., with his son Franklin in 1840, and settled under Coral Hill, opposite the cemetery, where the farm of William Ross now is. Here he entered 160 acres of land at the Government Land Office, which he partially improved but afterwards sold and settled on another farm in Coral Township. He finally went to Iowa to live with his children, and died at Waverly in that State. He was a Baptist in religious belief. His son, Franklin Bowen, received a common-school education in his native country and, at the age of eighteen, married Permelia Ripley, who was about the same age. She was born in Chautauqua County, N. Y., May 13, 1820, the daughter of William and Betsy Ripley, who were of New England stock but pioneer settlers in New York. Franklin Bowen and wife remained in Chautauqua County until 1840, when he came to McHenry County in a two-horse covered wagon, the journey occupying three weeks. After his arrival in McHenry County he bought forty acres of land, to which he afterward added ten acres more, but subsequently removed to Marengo. His first wife

died on the farm, Feb. 12, 1885, at the age of sixty-five, leaving children named: Mary, Caroline, Cordelia and Adelia Atlanta. Mr. Bowen himself died at Marengo, August 29, 1888, aged sixty-eight years. He was a member of the Baptist church, a Republican in politics and an industrious and reputable citizen.

After his marriage in 1863, as related above, Ira Webber settled down on his farm, but two months after the birth of his first child, by his enlistment in the army, his wife, with her infant daughter, was left to face the anxieties and loneliness which came to the wives of soldiers of that period. The story of Mr. Webber's career in the army has already been related with reasonable fullness, but the following incident is mentioned as an illustration of the hardships encountered by the soldiers of that period. While working on the breast-works in the slashes near Spanish Fort, Ala., in the last days of the war, Mr. Webber was poisoned by coming in contact with some poison plant—probably the poison ivy. His head and some parts of his body were badly swollen—some portions to twice the ordinary size—and, as a consequence, he endured great suffering. His illness continued for a long time, and from its effects he has never entirely recovered, being at times almost entirely disabled. During this period he did not enter a hospital, but endured his suffering in camp as best he could.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Webber have had children named as follows: Jennie Adelia, born July 1, 1864, died Sept. 26, 1869; Mary and May (twins), born Sept. 16, 1870—Mary died Sept. 27, 1870, and May, Nov. 9, 1870. Mr. Webber is a Republican in politics and he and his wife are among the most highly respected citizens of McHenry County.

#### HENRY C. WERDEN.

Henry C. Werden, farmer, Nunda Township, McHenry County, is descended from old colonial stock of Massachusetts, his remote ancestors having come from England during the days of Puritan emigration between 1630 and 1640. Alden Werden, the grandfather of Henry C. Werden, was born in Rhode Island, in 1789. He was the son of a Revolutionary soldier and was a carpenter and joiner by trade. In 1856 he came with his only son, Ambrose P. Werden, to Lake County, Ill., and died there in 1865, at the age of seventy-six years. In religious be-



*Mrs. Ira Webber*





lief he was a Baptist. His wife, Chloe (Green) Werden, died at their old home in Lanesboro, Mass.

Ambrose P. Werden was born in Cheshire, Mass., in 1818, and in his earlier days was a farmer, but later became a paper manufacturer, being engaged in this business for a number of years. He was married in his native town of Lanesboro, to Sarah H. Bagg, a native of Massachusetts, whose maternal grandfather, a Mr. Baker, was a soldier of the Revolution. Her father, Aaron Bagg, was a farmer by occupation. Ambrose P. Werden and wife were the parents of the following named children: Henry C., born July 14, 1842; Herbert, born May 11, 1848; Kirk, born Sept. 4, 1851; Willie, born Oct. 21, 1854. After coming to Lake County, Mr. Werden entered into partnership with a Mr. Tiffany in the wagon manufacturing business at Waukegan, under the firm name of Tiffany & Werden, and they were the builders of the first steam-engine sent to Minneapolis, Minn. In 1860, having retired from business at Waukegan, he removed to Nunda Township, McHenry County, where he bought the farm on which his son Henry C. now lives. This farm at the time had been but little improved, but by bringing the land under cultivation and erecting buildings, he greatly improved it, and converted it into a good homestead. Mr. Werden was a member of the Baptist church, and in politics an old line Whig. He died in 1885, aged sixty-seven years.

Henry C. Werden, the son of the preceding, was born in Lanesboro, Berkshire County, Mass., and at the age of about fourteen years, came with his father's family to Lake County, Ill. He received a common-school education and during the second year of the Civil War, having reached the age of twenty years, he enlisted as a private in Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. Henry J. Millay. After a service of five and a half months, of which one month was spent near St. Louis, and the remainder chiefly in Kentucky, he was honorably discharged and returned to his home in McHenry County. On December 31, 1866, he was married at Waukegan, Ill., to Louisa H. S. Oakes, born in Sanford, Bennington County, Vt., the daughter of Andrew and Phoebe (Meyers) Oakes, and two children have been born of this marriage, viz.: Louvain A., born Oct. 5, 1867,

and Clayton K., born April 26, 1873. Louvain A. is a dentist in Nunda, and married Maude Rowena Ferris, and his brother, Clayton K., married Hallin Esther Ferris. Henry C. Werden politically is a staunch Republican, maintains the reputation of a reliable and trustworthy citizen and has served for the last twenty years as Road Commissioner of Nunda Township.

The Oakes family, of which Mrs. Henry C. Werden is a member, is of early New England ancestry. The name is variously spelled, "Oakes," "Oaks" and "Oak"—the latter being the original style of orthography. Nathaniel Oak, the founder of the family in America, was born in 1660, and, in 1686, married Mehitabel Rediath, who died at Marlboro, Mass. He subsequently married, as his second wife, Mary Holloway of Concord.

Nathaniel Oak (2), son of the preceding, was born Jan. 7, 1703, and lived on Long Hill, Bolton, Mass., where his father, Nathaniel (1), had settled.

Beriah Oak, son of Nathaniel (2), was born about 1818, and lived to be sixty-seven years old, dying in 1885.

Daniel Oakes—as he spelled the name,—of the fourth generation of the American branch of the family, and grandfather of Mrs. Henry C. Werden, was born June 17, 1776, and was married June 24, 1800, to Hepzabeth Batchelor. Their children were: Asa, born May, 1801, died 1860; Luke, born Oct. 16, 1802, died March 16, 1872; Merrick, born April 9, 1804, died Feb. 2, 1893; Louisa, born June 19, 1806, died May 25, 1851; Mary, born Sept. 13, 1807, died May 12, 1901; Adaline, born March 29, 1812, died in infancy; Nancy, born Aug. 30, 1813, died March 21, 1863; Daniel, born April 20, 1816, died Oct. 11, 1897; Ephraim, born Oct. 7, 1818, died May, 1902; Andrew, born Oct. 24, 1820.

Andrew Oakes, the last named of this family, was reared on a farm, received a common-school education, and was married at Pownal, Vt., March 11, 1843, to Phoebe Myers, who was born April 14, 1821, the daughter of Simeon and Sophia (Barber) Myers. Simeon Myers, the father, was a native of Vermont and a farmer by occupation. Andrew Oakes owned a farm of 100 acres in Stamford, Vt., which he had bought of his father. In 1866 he came to Illinois, arriving April 4th, and, in the fall of

1867, bought the farm in Wauconda Township. This consisted of 100 acres of improved land, upon which he lived until Feb. 1, 1882. Then, retiring from active life as a farmer, he removed to Wauconda, where he bought improved property and where he now resides. He still owns the home farm besides valuable real estate in Wauconda. Mr. Oakes is a Universalist in religious belief and in politics a Republican. His children—all born in Stamford, Vt.—are: Oscar W., born Dec. 6, 1843, died in Union County, Iowa; Louisa S., born Sept. 12, 1847; Clara L., born June 21, 1856; Libbie C., born Sept. 12, 1858. At the present time (1903), Mr. and Mrs. Oakes are spending the evening of their lives at their Wauconda home—he having reached the age of eighty-three years and she, eighty-two.

Chloe (Green) Werden, wife of Alden Werden and grandmother of Henry C. Werden, was of the same stock as Gen. Nathaniel Greene of Revolutionary fame. He was descended from James Green, who was born at Newport, Mass., May 7, 1750, and on Oct. 23, 1776, was married at Adams, Mass., to Hepzibah Bower, who was born at Cumberland, near Providence, R. I., April 10, 1753—the ceremony being performed by Rev. Samuel Todd. James Green died at Williamstown, Mass., March 24, 1830, and his wife at the same place, Nov. 5, 1794. The children of Mr. and Mrs. James Green were: Susannah, born in Berkshire, Mass., Aug. 1, 1777; Sallie T., born Oct. 18, 1778; Eleanor born April 12, 1780, died April 25, 1825; Hasty, born Nov. 30, 1781; Daniel, born Sept. 18, 1783, died July, 1805; Polly, born Feb. 23, 1786; Chloe, born March 7, 1788, became the wife of Alden Werden; Laura and Clara (twins), born Sept. 30, 1790—Clara died March 1, 1791; Thomas Bowen, born May 17, 1792; Clara (2), born Oct. 14, 1794, died at Williamstown, Sept. 25, 1825. James Green was a minister of the Baptist church and had a long line of descendants. (The above record of the family is taken from an old family Bible, which contains many records of much historical value written in a very legible hand.)

#### GEORGE WHISTON.

George Whiston, farmer of Nunda Township, McHenry County, Ill., is the son of John and

Adelia (Salisbury) Whiston, who were early settlers of McHenry County. The Whistons are an old Vermont family of English descent. Christ Whiston, the great-grandfather of George Whiston moved from Vermont to Oneida County, N. Y., at an early day, and there opened up a farm. His children were: Mary, Catherine, Susan, Charlotte, Margaret, Jane, Stephen, Samuel and John. He was the son of a Revolutionary soldier. The son John of this family was born at Deerfield, Oneida County, N. Y., Oct. 21, 1801, was married August 18, 1822, to Hannah James and they had children: Lovina, born August 20, 1824, died July 26, 1826; Hannah, born March 21, 1826; John, born April 17, 1828; Fannie, born Feb. 21, 1831, died July 11, 1902; Mary G., born August 21, 1833; Elizabeth, born Dec. 10, 1835, died Feb. 28, 1903; Margaret E., died Oct. 9, 1843; Annie, died Oct. 16, 1851; William, born Jan. 17, 1831,—was a soldier in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, and died Dec. 31, 1869; Abbie, born Feb. 3, 1842, died Oct. 9, 1843; Rosette, born Sept. 1, 1845.

John Whiston, Sr., bought eighty acres of land in Oneida County and improved a farm upon which he lived until 1849, when, in the spring of that year, he came in advance of his family to McHenry County, Ill., and bought land (eighty acres of prairie and a like amount of timber) in Hebron Township near Tryon's Corners. He was a Democrat in political belief and he and his wife were members of the Methodist church. He died March 6, 1874, and his wife, May 13, 1894, aged about eighty-eight years.

John Whiston, Jr., of this family, and father of George Whiston of McHenry County, born at Deerfield, Oneida County, N. Y., April 17, 1828, received a limited education and at an early age began work on the farm. At twenty-one years of age he came with his parents to McHenry County, remaining seven years, when, on March 6, 1856, he married Adelia M. Salisbury, a native of Shelby, Ohio. After marriage he settled on a 40-acre tract of land which he had purchased in Hebron Township. Later Mr. Whiston removed with his family to Iowa, buying a house at Independence, Buchanan County, where he engaged in teaming and farming, and where he remained until



1872, when he returned to McHenry County, settling first in Nunda Township, and later on the old Cottle farm in Dorr Township belonging to George K. Bunker. Here he lived twenty years, carrying on the farm in partnership with his son George. In 1898 he removed to his present home. In religious belief Mr. and Mrs. John Whiston are Methodists, while in political faith he is a Democrat. Their children are: George, subject of this sketch, born Dec. 25, 1856; Alice, born in Hebron Township, March 6, 1861, and Frank E., born in Elgin, Ill., April 8, 1867.

The parents of Adelia H. (Salisbury) Whiston, wife of John Whiston, Jr., were Charles and Elsie (Marvin) Salisbury. The Salisburys were of colonial New England ancestry, Hale Salisbury, the father of Charles and grandfather of Mrs. Whiston, being born at Brattleboro, Vt., where he became a farmer. His children were: Esther, Hannah, Betsy, Rachael, Melinda, Roswell, Hale, Alva, Enri and Charles. Hale Salisbury, Sr., moved to Chenango County, N. Y., at an early period, and there established himself as a farmer. He was a soldier of the War of 1812, and he and his family were members of the Baptist church. He lived on his farm in New York until about eighty years of age and there died, his wife dying about the same age. Charles Salisbury, father of Mrs. Whiston, born at Brattleboro, Vt., Feb. 13, 1805, went in his boyhood with his parents to New York, and in 1829, when about twenty-four years of age, removed to Richland County, Ohio, with his sister Betsy, who had married a Mr. Manson. Here, on May 9, 1830, he married Elsie Marvin, and they continued to reside in that locality for the next ten years, when they removed to Chenango County, N. Y., where he bought a farm of 140 acres in the town of Green, and there remained fifteen years. During a memorable religious revival, which occurred during the year 1845, he and his wife were converted and united with the Methodist church. In 1855 Mr. Salisbury removed with his family from Chenango County, N. Y., to Greenwood, McHenry County, Ill. Here he owned a farm of 160 acres, although following the occupation of a carpenter most of his life. In 1867 he removed to Buchanan County, Iowa, but after a brief stay

there, about 1880 returned to McHenry County, locating in Nunda Township, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying there Feb. 4, 1890. Had he lived until May 9, following, he would have celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of his marriage. His children were: William C., born June 12, 1832; Roswell, born March 6, 1834; Adelia A., born June 18, 1836; Charlotte A., born May 6, 1838; Louisa M., born Nov. 12, 1840; Hale I., born Dec. 21, 1842; Maranda M., born June 21, 1847; Helen M., born July 13, 1849; Emma, born March 22, 1852. His wife was a Miss Elsie Marvin, born in Connecticut, Sept. 13, 1810, the daughter of Isaac and Hannah (Hoit) Marvin. The Marvins and Hoits were of English Puritan ancestry. Mrs. Elsie (Marvin) Salisbury's parents were early settlers in Richland County, Ohio, the father, Isaac Marvin, being born in Connecticut, Feb. 27, 1774, and his wife, August 15, 1773. The former died in Mansfield, Ohio October, 1850, and the wife, March 27, 1858. The father of Isaac Marvin was Isaac, Sr., who was born Feb. 16, 1745, and the wife of the latter, Rachael, born Dec. 9, 1740. They had children: Henry, born Dec. 17, 1775; Abraham and Rachael (twins), born Nov. 25, 1779. The children of Isaac, Jr., and his wife, Hannah (Hoit) Marvin, were: Charles, born Oct. 30, 1795; Stephen born June 8, 1797; Maranda, born June 13, 1798; Sallie, born Nov. 8, 1799; Isaac M., born April 1, 1800; Henry H., born May 29, 1801; Eliza, born July 20, 1802; Hiram, born May 22, 1804; Silas, born Nov. 16, 1805; Abraham, born March 27, 1807; William, born Dec. 22, 1808; Elsie, born Sept. 13, 1810; Ezra, born April 18, 1812; Hannah, born Nov. 13, 1813. The following deaths of members of this family are recorded in the old family Bible: Abraham, June 4, 1808; Hiram, June 15, 1828; Charles, Dec. 4, 1840; Isaac Marvin, the father, 1777; and Rachael the mother, Feb. 27, 1829.

George Whiston, the oldest descendant of John and Adelia (Salisbury) Whiston and principal subject of this sketch, was born in Hebron Township, McHenry County, Ill., Dec. 23, 1856, and received his early education in the Tryon district school and in Greenwood village, walking to the latter a distance of three miles, after which he spent one winter in a

school at Elgin and some time in another district school in McHenry County. After his father's removal to Buchanan County, Iowa, as related in the sketch of the latter, he attended school there in winter while working on the farm in summer—in all, his school training continued until he was about sixteen years old. He thus acquired a good common-school education, while being trained to the life of a practical farmer—a pursuit he has followed ever since. Returning from Iowa to McHenry County, Ill., with his parents when about sixteen years old, he continued his farm-life there with his father, and on Dec. 25, 1878, was married at Woodstock, Ill., by Elder Todd, to Carrie Flanders, who was born August 28, 1857, the daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth Flanders. The following March he settled on the Cottle farm in Dorr Township, and there carried on the farming business in conjunction with his father continuously for the next twenty years. In 1898 Mr. Whiston bought the Gordon Beckley farm, a tract of 160 acres in Nunda Township on the McHenry road. This farm is well improved and, under Mr. Whiston's practical management, is yielding satisfactory returns. Mr. Whiston has taken no interest in partisan politics, and has never held public office, devoting his time to his pursuit as a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. George Whiston have had three children: Lillian, born in Dorr Township, May 7, 1882; Pearl, born Dec. 5, 1883, and Earle, born Jan. 20, 1887.

The daughter, Lillian, married Hugh O'Donald, a farmer who resides on the home farm in Nunda Township, and they have one daughter, Helen, born at Nunda, August 3, 1902.

Mr. Whiston's sister Alice married Nov. 7, 1883, A. D. Barden, of Woodstock, and they have one daughter, Daisy, born August 26, 1884. His brother, Frank E., married Lizzie Wheeler, Nov. 24, 1886, and they have had children named: Charles, born Oct. 10, 1887; Harry, born August 7, 1889; Myrtle, born May 16, 1895.

#### REV. JOEL WHEELER.

Rev. Joel Wheeler (now deceased) was one of the most notable pioneers of Northern Illinois. His sphere of influence was not

limited to McHenry County, but extended not only through this section of the State but over a considerable portion of Wisconsin and, in his later years, he preached the gospel in as distant a field as the Pine Tree State. By nature a man of powerful physique, while a preacher and teacher of great ability, he was also a sturdy and successful pioneer farmer who could work on his farm sixteen hours a day for six days in the week, and on Sunday ride many miles to preach the gospel in the settlements, preaching morning and evening and driving home late at night. For many years he labored without compensation, founding many frontier churches. When in the late '70s he was allowed the munificent salary of \$300 per annum, he felt that he was receiving a generous reward. Besides his labors as a minister and teacher, he was a shrewd and successful farmer, and was never known to be without a supply of ready money to pay for his land and improve it into a broad and productive farm. The following historical and biographical sketch is taken from voluminous manuscripts left by Mr. Wheeler and, as far as possible, the quaint language of the pioneer evangelist is preserved.

The Wheeler family is of sturdy Welsh extraction, Jonathan Wheeler, the great-grandfather of Rev. Joel Wheeler, having emigrated to America about the middle of the seven-teenth century, settling in Salem, Mass. Two brothers who came with him, located respectively at Concord and Rowley, Mass. Jonathan Wheeler was a follower of Roger Williams who, in consequence of the spirit of intolerance manifested towards the Baptists in New England, in 1836 established the Colony of the "Providence Plantation" in Rhode Island, with a view to securing freedom in matters of faith and civil government. Short life was predicted for this experiment, but it proved to be not only the forerunner of perfect religious freedom, but of universal suffrage and equality in the matter of eligibility to office, which has since become the rule in most of the States of the American Republic. Under the Puritanic laws then existing in the older New England Colonies, meeting-houses were erected and ministers supported at public cost by taxes, sometimes forcibly collected



from the people irrespective of religious faith; the observance of the Sabbath was compulsory, and preaching in the churches by ministers of other denominations than those recognized by the Puritans was prohibited under severe penalties, including fines, whippings and even imprisonment or banishment.

William Wheeler, the son of Jonathan and grandfather of Rev. Joel Wheeler, served under Col. George Washington on the side of the Colonies in the French and Indian War, during which he was captured by two Indians but escaped by strategy. In 1761 he removed with his family, consisting of four sons and three daughters, to Dunbarton, N. Y., and he and two of his sons served under General Gates in the War of the Revolution, being present at the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga in 1777. Joel Wheeler, a son of William Wheeler and father of Rev. Joel Wheeler, married Achsah Colby, and two daughters and one son were born to them. His wife was born in 1776 and died in 1807. He then married Esther Hammond, who was also born in 1776, and she bore him three sons and died in 1844. Joel Wheeler (1) was the only professed Baptist in his town, the Puritan faith being predominant, but served for a time as Church Clerk at Baw. He always paid his tax for the support of the established church until 1807, when, having refused to do so, he was arrested and marched to jail. Later he joined with three others in presenting their grievances to the authorities, and finally in 1819 religious toleration became the law of the State. At the age of nineteen, having seen a hand-printing press exhibited by a gentleman at an academy he was attending, he procured one which he afterwards used for printing the ballots on the Democratic side for the local election. These ballots, when distributed among the people, caused much surprise and evoked no little admiration.

Rev. Joel Wheeler was born in Dunbarton, N. H., Sept. 19, 1808, the son of Deacon Joel and Esther (Hammond) Wheeler. His native town is situated on the Merrimac River between Concord and Manchester, N. H. Both Joel and his brother Christy united with the Baptist church at Goffstown and entered upon a course of study with a view to lives

of usefulness. Joel was a pupil in the institute at Meriden and, at the age of sixteen, began teaching, meanwhile for a part of the time studying theology under Rev. James Boswell, of Salem, Mass.

November 8, 1832, he was licensed to preach, his first field of labor being at Swansey, N. H., three miles west of Keene on the Ashuelot River. He was afterwards elected to the pastorate of the Baptist church at Mason Village, and while revival was in progress and numerous converts coming forward, he was presented by the Council for ordination and this ceremony was duly carried into effect. In 1835 he took charge of an infant church at Southampton, Mass., where he labored until the spring of 1837, when he removed to Illinois, making the journey overland with teams and arriving at McHenry, McHenry County, August 18th. At this time McHenry County extended to Lake Michigan, including Lake County, which was set apart in 1839. On August 20th, two days after his arrival, Mr. Wheeler preached the first sermon and organized the first Sabbath School ever organized in McHenry. His coming to Illinois was induced by sympathy for his brother, Dr. Cristy G. Wheeler, who had already come to McHenry County, in the hope of finding relief from a lung trouble from which he had been a sufferer in the East. Although the Indian title to lands in McHenry County had been extinguished during the previous year, the land was still unsurveyed and only an occasional log cabin had been built. There were no school houses or churches, and no highways had been laid out, no bridges across streams had been built, and "not a fork full of hay had been cast into a mud-hole or slew" (slough), no rails for fences had been split, while the roofs of the log cabins consisted of oak "shakes" (split clapboards) laid on poles in lieu of rafters, with smaller poles laid over them to keep them from blowing away. Neither sawed lumber nor nails were used in the construction of the cabins, access to distant cities was difficult and there was little communication with outside civilization. The abundant grass was unbroken and ungrazed save by herds of wild deer. In traveling the points of the compass were the guide, and the location of the sun



and direction of the wind were taken into account. Then Indian trails were of value as a substitute for the compass in assisting the traveler to find his way from point to point. These had been made by the Indians as they traveled on foot or on their ponies, following each other in single file, even though there might be hundreds of them stretching out a mile or more in direct line. These trails led the "Che-mo-ke-mon" (white man) to the safest crossings of the sloughs and fords of the rivers, and they protected the pioneer settler and early explorer from many perils they would otherwise have had to encounter. But even with these advantages and the exercise of a fair degree of caution, the traveler would often find his journey arrested by the miring of his horse or his vehicle in the black soil. As immigration progressed, families settled down in isolated situations and they finally became located within some miles of each other. They would "squat"—or locate—without knowing where the surveyor's lines would place them, or in what township they would find themselves. A large percentage of the settlers were unmarried—adventurers—and often their stay was short. The method of the early pioneer, after a wearisome journey of hundreds of miles, was to halt his tired team and camp out beside his wagon while collecting logs and poles, sometimes from a distance, to construct a one-room cabin, then pile hay upon the top in place of boards or shingles, hoping in the future to improve their humble dwellings planted under these circumstances—not knowing their relation to any other settlement—the wolves barking around them at night—only aware that their home was in a broad, trackless prairie in a new country.

Dr. C. G. Wheeler and his family were the first to locate in McHenry, and one cold morning in the winter of 1836-7, his log-shanty took fire. While on the roof trying to extinguish the flames, he was delighted to hear a musket discharged some distance east of Fox River, which gave him notice of some hunter or settler near by. Other early settlers in this vicinity were the Goodro and Rice families who located near what is now called Volo. They had made a trail to Chicago which the McHenry settlers extended to Fox River. This trail, covering a distance of thirty-four

miles, was the first thoroughfare from Chicago to Fox River and the region west of it, and this has been maintained up to the present time. A matter of mysterious interest to the early settlers was the existence of an improved ford at McHenry across Fox River—a sort of hearth or pavement made of stone laid across the bottom of the stream. Where the stones could have come from, or how brought there, could never be determined, as there was no quarry in the surrounding country; but the improved ford answered a good purpose for the Indian and the early settler as well. These stones were finally taken from the river at low water and used in the construction of walls. An Indian burial-ground once occupied the site of McHenry during the days of occupancy by the Indians and, at the time of the arrival of the first white settlers, the remains of a dead chief were resting in his simple sepulcher—a diminutive log-cabin large enough for the skeleton to rest seated on a stool, where he could be seen and receive the homage of his tribe. Among the various articles left by his devoted followers to cheer their dead leader on his way to the "happy hunting grounds," plugs of tobacco were the most conspicuous. These relics, including the skeleton itself, were finally appropriated by settlers as curiosities. Among the keepsakes obtained by Mr. Wheeler was a necklace made of common metal vest buttons, amounting to several dozen strung on a sort of braid.

In 1837 the population of Chicago numbered about 1,500, and according to the census of 1840 it was less than 5,000. Up to the winter of 1840-41 there was no formal religious organization there except the Baptists. They held services over a region extending from twenty-four miles north of Milwaukee, southward to Joliet, then a small settlement but a seat of justice and a promising town. All travel at that time, except on the lake and large rivers, was on horseback or by one-horse wagon—the "Dearborn," consisting of a box suspended by straps called "thorough-braces," being the popular vehicle. The traveler often incurred great danger in crossing sloughs, creeks, ravines, rivers and long marshy tracts with which the country, during the wet season, abounded. In his many long journeys between widely scat-

tered settlements, Mr. Wheeler endured many hardships, on two occasions narrowly escaping drowning and twice being reported dead. In November, 1837, he organized a Baptist church at Lake Zurich and in March, 1838, others at Salem and Kenosha, Wis.,—successively adding eight other churches in this field during his ministration. While conducting services in a log-dwelling, on February 28, 1838, a small room, in which he had deposited his overcoat and other extra clothing, took fire and was destroyed, including the wardrobe of the family. A part of his loss was made up to him by voluntary donations received through Rev. Isaac Hinton, pastor of the Baptist church at Chicago, and by an appropriation of \$100 per year from the Home Missionary Society of the Baptist church, which was continued for six years. During the same period he suffered from another fire which destroyed a building in which he had property stored. The fund received from the Home Missionary Society was of great aid, on one occasion enabling him to save his unfinished home, which otherwise would have passed out of his hands.

It was not until the winter of 1840-41 that a clergyman of any other denomination entered the field in which Elder Wheeler had been laboring for three years. This was in connection with the organization of a Methodist Episcopal class at Crystal Lake. At this time Mr. Wheeler had eleven churches under his charge. In 1842 he removed to Galena, where he was remarkably successful, numerous accessions being made to the church which he organized there. At an earlier date he had organized a church at Warrensville, Dupage County. The following is a list of churches under his charge between 1837 and 1850, found among his manuscripts after his death under the heading, "My Churches:" Wauconda, November, 1837; McHenry, January 1, 1838; Kenosha and Salem, Wis., March, 1838; Crystal Lake and Upper Desplaines, 1839; Union Bridge, Benton and Bloomingdale, 1841; Richmond, 1842; Oregon (Rock River), 1845; Waukegan, 1846; Silver Lake, 1847; Woodstock, 1850.

When Mr. Wheeler reached McHenry in August, 1837, he immediately began the erection of a house which was completed during the next year. This was the first frame

building in what is now McHenry village. The main room was reserved for church and school purposes. In 1838 he opened what was called a boarding school, which he conducted with the aid of his wife—this being the first school of its kind in McHenry County. Though sparsely attended at times, it drew its pupils from a wide extent of country, including portions of both Illinois and Wisconsin. In 1841 he removed to Warrensville, Dupage County, which possessed no church edifice or school for instruction in the higher branches. Chicago, even then, had not entered upon any such enterprise. Elder Wheeler had several students fitting for the ministry. The subject of the erection of a school building having been brought before the people of Warrensville, the first story of a spacious building was furnished for church purposes and the second for a school. The latter was conducted for a number of years under the name of the "Warrensville Institute"—the only school in the Northwest where the classics were taught. Later a handsome church edifice and a spacious school building were erected. A number of the early physicians in Northern Illinois received their classical training in this institution.

Elder Wheeler was three times married: first, on April 2, 1835, to Julia Ann Elliot, daughter of Rev. William Elliot, of Mason, N. H.; second, to Mary Jane Freeman, daughter of Rev. Peter Freeman, of Waukegan, Ill., and for his third wife, in January, 1869, at Brownsville, Mo., to Eliza Dunn Berry, the daughter of Hon. Levi Berry, of Smyrna, Me. The first marriage ceremony in McHenry County was that of Jonathan Emerson and Miss Mary Wray, performed by Elder Wheeler, Nov. 30, 1837, and the first in the village of McHenry, also performed by him, was that of Luther Burnham to Charlotte Joslyn, Jan. 26, 1839. Elder Wheeler died October 30, 1886.

#### DAVID W. HEWITT.

David Winslow Hewitt, veteran soldier of the Civil War, and for twenty-one years past City Marshal of Marengo, Ill., is descended from Scotch ancestry. His great-grandfather, Capt. Alden Hewitt, was a native of Scotland, and commander of an ocean-going vessel. Once during his life he paid a visit to his son Thomas



and family in New York State, which is remembered by his great-grandson, David W. At that time the venerable sea-captain was clad in the old-fashioned knee-breeches, with long stockings and low shoes with bright buckles, and his long white hair gathered in a queue after the manner of a century ago. The captain bought a horse in New York City, upon which he made a tour of 260 miles visiting relatives.

Thomas Hewitt, the son of Capt. Alden Hewitt, and grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Scotland, came to America in early manhood, and, in New York State, married Sally Hewitt, who was of colonial Puritan ancestry and born in Vermont. Thomas Hewitt, who was a farmer, cleared up a farm in the woods in the neighborhood of Palatine, N. Y., but later moved to Oneida County, same State, where he located on another farm. He finally died at the home of his son David, at Jordan, Onondaga County, N. Y., aged about eighty years. His children were: Nathaniel, Alden, Thomas, Mercy, Grant, David and Benjamin.

David Hewitt, the father of David Winslow Hewitt, was born at Palatine, in the Mohawk Valley, in New York State, June 9, 1810. He was reared a farmer, meanwhile acquiring a common-school education, and later followed teaming for many years, also being employed as a boatman on the Erie Canal. He married at Conastota, Madison County, N. Y., twenty-five miles east of Syracuse, Candace Lillie, who was born in Oneida, N. Y., Nov. 12, 1814. He and his wife lived here two years, when they removed to Elbridge, Onondaga County, where they lived many years. Their children were: David Winslow, born June 19, 1832; Sophia, born Dec. 10, 1834; Lucy, born Jan. 22, 1839; Mary M., born Jan. 31, 1841; Lucinda, born April 30, 1843, died Dec. 23, 1871; Stephen P., born Oct. 1, 1845—all born in Onondaga County, except Mary. David Hewitt, Sr., moved to Marengo, McHenry County, Ill., in the spring of 1866, and there bought residence property, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying Jan. 17, 1893. His wife died at Jordan, N. Y., Oct. 13, 1856. Mr. Hewitt was a man of industrious habits, originally a Democrat in politics, but in later life became a Republican.

David W. Hewitt, the subject of this sketch, received a limited education, being taught to read and write by his maternal great-grand-

father, Stephen Pratt Lillie, who died aged ninety-eight years. The latter was a soldier of the Revolution who fought at Bunker Hill and on Lake Champlain. In his later years he was a shoemaker at Elbridge, N. Y. David W., while a boy, began driving horses on the tow-path on the Erie Canal, later was employed as a boat-hand and steersman, but before reaching his majority, became the owner of a canal-boat, carrying freight between Buffalo and New York City—160 miles of the distance south of Troy being upon the Hudson river. During a severe storm off West Point he lost his boat and had a narrow escape from drowning, being rescued by a passing steamer.

Mr. Hewitt was married at Brutus, Cayuga County, N. Y., Feb. 11, 1855, to Ursula Hulett, who was born on Onondaga Hill in Onondaga County, N. Y., Feb. 13, 1834, the daughter of Robert and Sarah (Wood) Hulett. Both her parents were natives of Bedfordshire, England, where they were married, and had three children before coming to America. The father was the son of Robert Hulett, Sr., who was a wealthy brewer of Bedfordshire. After coming to America the Hulett family settled in Onondaga County, N. Y., but later moved to Brutus, Cayuga County, where the father was accidentally killed at a railroad crossing. The children were: Charles, James, Jesse, Elizabeth, Ursula, Martha, Carrie and Mary Ann.

After marriage David W. Hewitt settled at Elbridge N. Y., where he continued his employment in connection with the Erie Canal until sometime during the Civil War, when on Feb. 15, 1864, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Tenth Regiment New York Cavalry, serving until May 31, 1865, when the war having ended, he was honorably discharged. The Tenth Cavalry was assigned to the Second Brigade, Second Division, Second Corps, Army of the Potomac, and took part in the following engagements and campaigns: Hawes' Shop, May 26-28, 1864; Cold Harbor, May 31 to June 6, 1864; Sheridan's Raid, June 7-27, 1864; Petersburg, June 18, 1864, and April 2-3, 1865; Lee's Station, July 12, 1864; Lee's Mills, July 30, 1864; Weldon Railroad, August 18-20, 1864; Ream Station, August 23-25, 1864; Stony Creek, Sept. 4-16, 1864; Hatcher's Run, Oct. 27, 1864; Blackwater Nov. 18, 1864; Hick's Ford Raid, Dec. 6-11, 1864; Appomattox Campaign, March 29 to April 9, 1865, including nine engagements, be-



sides other battles not here enumerated, amounting to more than one hundred in all. Mr. Hewitt was wounded by a saber cut in the hand at Hatcher's Run and was in Findlay Hospital, at Washington, D. C., twenty-one days.

After the war Mr. Hewitt returned to his home in New York State and, in the spring of 1866, moved with his family to McHenry County, settling at Marengo. After coming to McHenry County he was engaged successively in farm work, teaming, running a threshing machine and clover-huller and a wood-sawing machine. Nearly twenty-one years ago he received an appointment as City Marshal of Marengo, a position which he has filled continuously to the present time. He has also served as Deputy Sheriff two terms and as Constable for the last eighteen years, discharging his duties in these several positions to the satisfaction of the public.

Mr. and Mrs. David W. Hewitt are parents of the following named children: David Allen, born Dec. 23, 1856; John V., born March 21, 1859; Florence C., born July 25, 1851, died Nov. 6, 1862, in Jordan, N. Y.; Stephen W., born Feb. 2, 1863; Harvey M., born Sept. 9, 1866, died Sept. 17, 1868; Bertie W., born March 12, 1869, died July 31, 1894; Lucy Ann, born Dec. 29, 1871, died July 15, 1873; Sarah A., born April 3, 1876.

#### HENRY W. BEARDSLEY.

Henry W. Beardsley, pioneer citizen of Nunda, Ill., and veteran of the Civil War, was born at Alexander, Genesee County, N. Y., August 1, 1828, the son of Ziba S. and Ency (Winters) Beardsley, and believes himself to be the oldest surviving settler—in point of residence—in Nunda or Crystal Lake Township. His father, Ziba Beardsley, was born at Harpersfield, N. Y., Aug. 3, 1800, the son of Najah and Rachel (Woodard) Beardsley. Najah was a native of New England (probably of Connecticut) and came in pioneer days to Genesee County, N. Y., where he opened a farm. His children were: Abner, Cynthia, Gratie, Hannah and Ziba S. Ziba S. became a farmer, and married at Alexander, N. Y., July 4, 1823, Ency W. Ellis, who was born in Orange County, N. Y., March 20, 1803, the daughter of John and Catherine Ellis. He settled on a farm in Genesee County, but for a time drove stage between Alden, N. Y., and Buffalo. In 1835 Ziba S. and

his father, Najah, came to Illinois, making the journey by sailing vessel—the "Queen Charlotte"—which had been captured from the British during the War of 1812, the voyage from Buffalo to Chicago beginning in the early part of September and occupying twenty-seven days. Chicago was then a frontier hamlet, while Fort Dearborn was still standing. Ziba first settled at Naperville, DuPage County, where he remained two and a half years, in the meantime, during 1836, locating a claim in McHenry, a part of which is now embraced within the Dole farm in Algonquin Township. This claim he sold and later took up another on the east side of Crystal Lake, to which he removed in 1837. This tract, originally consisting of about 150 acres, he improved, building upon it a house, where the village of old Crystal Lake was afterwards located. His father, Najah Beardsley, removed from DuPage County about 1836 to Crystal Lake, where he bought 75 acres of land and improved a farm, upon which he died Oct. 5, 1844, aged seventy-four years, his wife dying at Alexander, N. Y., Oct. 26, 1849. Ziba S. had children as follows, all born in New York except the two younger, who were born in Illinois: Alonzo D., born April 10, 1824; Theodore E., born August 27, 1826; Henry W., born August 1, 1828; Earl A., born June 20, 1830; Cynthia A., born August 25, 1832; Fannie M., born Feb. 18 1834; Catherine L., born Dec. 11, 1840; Frank, born March 7, 1846. Ziba S. was a member of the Baptist church and served as Justice of the Peace at Crystal Lake for several terms. He was a soldier of the Civil War, enlisting first when over sixty years of age as a private in a 100-days' regiment, in which he served one month over time, after which he re-enlisted in the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, but was discharged after four months' service on account of his advanced age. His father, Najah Beardsley, who came west with the son in 1835, was also a soldier of the War of 1812.

Henry W. Beardsley attended the first school taught in Crystal Lake in a building on the old 'Squire Crandall place, but owing to conditions in those pioneer days, received a limited education. He assisted his father in improving his farm, and when about twenty-five years of age, on Jan. 10, 1854, was married at old Crystal Lake, to Alzina (Raymond) Maynard, the widowed daughter of Charles and Polly Raymond. Her father was born in Massachusetts of col-

onial Puritan ancestry, Jan. 22, 1794, and on June 6, 1815, married Alzina Maynard, and they afterwards became early settlers at Waukesha, Wis. Mr. Raymond was a ship carpenter by trade and was accidentally killed in a ship-yard on the lake shore, March 12, 1847. His children were: Juliette, born March 9, 1816; Martha, born June 9, 1818; Desdemona, born Jan. 15, 1821; Bertha, born Nov. 29, 1822; Lovina born Dec. 27, 1824; Alzina, born Feb. 18, 1827; Esther Ann, born Sept. 6, 1829; Charles H., born March 27, 1832; Martin VanBuren, born June 15, 1834; Mary H., born Feb. 7, 1840.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Beardsley settled one and a half miles north of Nunda, McHenry County, and still later he learned the carpenter's trade. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a private in Company D, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under command of Col. Humphrey, but nine months later was honorably discharged on account of disability incurred in the service. After remaining at home about eighteen months, he re-enlisted in the same company and regiment, serving until the close of the war. During his first period of enlistment he participated in the siege of Vicksburg and was under fire much of the time. Having contracted rheumatism about this time he was in hospital at Jackson, Tenn., and at Memphis six weeks, resulting in his discharge as already stated. During his second term of service he spent about six months—Dec. 8, 1864, to June 22, 1865—in hospital at Nashville, at Jeffersonville, Ind., and at Quincy, Ill., and after his return home was entirely disabled for more than a year, when, having sufficiently recovered, he resumed his trade as a carpenter, which he has followed ever since. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Beardsley are: Ann Estella, born Nov. 24, 1854; Frank H., born June 21, 1857; Herbert J., born Oct. 4, 1860; Julia W., born April 17, 1863; and Newton S., born Oct. 10, 1866, besides one child (deceased) a twin of the last named. Mr. Beardsley is a charter member of the G. A. R. Post at Nunda, in which he has held the position of Vice-Commander and other offices. Mrs. Beardsley, for many years a member of the Methodist Episcopal, but later of the Free Methodist church, died Oct. 4, 1894. Mr. Beardsley has always maintained the reputation of a straight-forward and trustworthy citizen. He now resides with his son-in-law, Elias Paine.

Elias Paine was born in Nunda Township, McHenry County, Oct. 5, 1848, the son of Jason and Harriet. (Pierson) Paine, received a common-school education and is a carpenter by trade, but owns a farm of fifty-three acres in Nunda Township. His children are: Clarence H., born June 15, 1872, and Laura A., born July 31, 1876. The son, Clarence H., married on August. 24, 1898, Flora Wood, and they have two children: Frances Mabel, born Feb. 14, 1900; Charles Henry, born March 7, 1902.

#### WILLIAM A. CARMACK.

William A. Carmack, Harvard, Ill., member of a pioneer family of Dunham Township, McHenry County, is descended from Capt. William Carmack, a native of the North of Scotland, who, in early manhood removed to the North of Ireland and there married, Captain Carmack, who became the founder of the family in America—described as a man of dark complexion, while his wife was a blonde with red hair, both being very tall. They were Scotch Presbyterians. The Captain was a boat-builder by occupation, and emigrated to America sometime before the Revolutionary War, settling in New Jersey on the Delaware River. His location is said to have been near where General Washington made his famous crossing of the Delaware, before the battle of Trenton in December, 1776. Capt. Carmack followed boat-building after coming to America, and is said to have advised General Washington where to effect the crossing of the river, and to have furnished and commanded five of the boats used in that memorable event. He is also said to have rendered valuable service to the Colonies in other respects during the war. He was the father of two sons, William and David. The former settled in Crawford County, Penn., and the latter in Southern Kentucky. From the latter is descended Senator Carmack of Tennessee.

William Carmack, the son of Captain Carmack, and grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born on the banks of the Delaware about 1788. While a young man he adopted his father's occupation as a boat-builder, but afterwards became a carpenter and mill-wright, was a soldier of the War of 1812 and took part with the land forces in the battle of Put-in-Bay. At an earlier date he served as ensign under Gen. William Henry Harrison at the battle of Tippecanoe, and was a member of the Council of



War held by General Harrison after the battle. In 1813 he participated in the battle of the Thames, which resulted in the defeat of the British General Proctor and the death of Chief Tecumseh at the hands of Col. Richard M. Johnson of Kentucky. After the latter battle he witnessed the skinning of the Indian chief's body by soldiers of the Kentucky regiments to procure souvenirs of that tragic event. He also served as a soldier of the Black Hawk War some twenty years later.

William Carmack married in Crawford County, Penn., Mary Blystone, who was born in that county, the daughter of Abraham Blystone, who was of Holland-Dutch ancestry from New Jersey. After marriage he settled on a tract of land at French Creek in Crawford County, which he had received from the Government for his services during the war. This land was located within thirty miles of Meadville, Penn., and here Mr. Carmack built a mill, and also carried on the rafting of logs down the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers to Cincinnati. Later he removed to the River Raisin region in Michigan, where he kept a hotel, and still later kept a hotel in Door Prairie, west of LaPorte, Ind. In the spring of 1839 he moved by ox-team to McHenry County, Ill., where he bought a claim, and later perfected the title from the Government to a half-section of land, which now constitutes a part of the corporation of the City of Harvard, extending from below the Railroad Depot to, and beyond, the school building. He also owned eighty acres now in the north-eastern part of Harvard. He built a double log-house where the residence of E. L. Church now stands, which was the first house within the central portion of Harvard. In 1847 he bought a farm two miles southwest of Harvard, where he lived some years, when, having sold this farm, he bought what is known as the Martin farm, consisting of 240 acres, and there he and his wife spent the remainder of their days, after having become advanced in years, living with their son Abram. Mr. Carmack owned between 400 and 500 acres of land, and gave his children a good start in life. In politics he was an old-line Whig. The children of Mr. and Mrs. William Carmack were: Abram, David, Christopher, Sylvanus, William and Perry. William Carmack, Sr., died Sept. 28, 1865, aged eighty-two years.

Abram Carmack, of this family, was born in Crawford County, Penn., March 3, 1815, and was about fifteen years of age when his parents moved to Michigan. He received a common-school education and showed especial capability in arithmetic, but followed farming as his life occupation. Before coming to Illinois, in Porter County, Ind., he married Ruth Massey, who was born in the Blue Ridge Mountains in West Virginia, some six miles south of Harper's Ferry, daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Farnsworth) Massey. Her father, who was an English Quaker, was a currier and tanner by trade, and a practical abolitionist, not hesitating to assist fleeing slaves to freedom by way of the "underground railroad." On this account he left Virginia, going to Pittsburg, and thence by boat to a point below Cincinnati, afterwards settling south of, and near, Indianapolis. His sons having visited Northern Indiana, selected a considerable tract of land in Porter County, to which Samuel Massey removed with his family. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Massey were: Tamar, born April 10, 1802; Levi, born Sept. 17, 1804; Mordecai, born Oct. 9, 1807; Isaac, born April 20, 1809; Phebe, born July 21, 1811; David, born Sept. 13, 1813; Ruth, born Nov. 11, 1815; Joseph, born June 23, 1818. Mr. Massey died June 14, 1848, aged about 86 years, and his wife Jan. 11, 1864, aged 81.

After marriage Abram Carmack settled on an 80-acre tract of land received from his father-in-law, Samuel Massey, to which he added forty acres more, making a farm of 120 acres. Two years later he moved to Coffee Creek, Porter County, Ind., where he purchased 160 acres of land, but in 1839 came to McHenry County, Ill., with ox-teams, settling on a claim purchased of Thomas and John Metcalf, which he afterwards entered at the Government Land Office. This tract consisted of 240 acres with two log-houses upon it. He built a good frame house and otherwise improved his land, finally becoming the owner of five good farms in McHenry County. Abram Carmack was a member of the Universalist church and held the office of Justice of the Peace for many years, and was also Assessor of his township. His children were: William A., born Feb. 15, 1837; Mary C., born Nov. 11, 1839; and Robert L., the two first named born in Porter County, Ind., and the last in his grandfather's double log-house at Harvard, Ill. Mrs. Ruth (Massey) Carmack having died, Abram



Carmack married as his second wife, in McHenry County, about 1866, Caroline Niewerth, born in Hanover, Germany, Nov. 16, 1837, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Niewerth. The children by the second marriage were: Flora E., born August 31, 1869; Merville A., born August 23, 1872; Minnie C., born Dec. 23, 1875. The father, Abram Carmack, died on his home farm Feb. 17, 1892. At the time of his death Mr. Carmack was the owner of nearly 1,000 acres of land.

William A. Carmack was about five years old when his father removed to McHenry County, and can remember incidents of the journey, camping out in a tent and the big ox-teams. He received his education in the graded school at Harvard and the Belvidere High School, in the latter studying Latin, surveying and the higher mathematics. June 11, 1861, he was united in marriage, at Franklinville, McHenry County, to Charlotte D. Robinson, born Sept. 7, 1840, at Geneva, Wis., the daughter of Joseph and Harriet (Carr) Robinson. Joseph Robinson, who was a native of North of Ireland, came to America about 1834, settling near Toronto, Canada, four years later (1838) coming to Lake Geneva, Wis., where his wife's mother bought land. In 1840 he removed to Franklinville, McHenry County, Ill., and there bought 240 acres of land, but died while on a visit to Springfield, Mo. His children were: Rachael, Rebecca, Henry W., Maria and George W.

After marriage William A. Carmack settled on a farm south of Harvard, where he resided one and a half years, when he removed to Tripoli, Bremer County, Iowa. He there bought 197 acres of land, which he improved, but after residing there seven years, returned to McHenry County, locating on Section 7 in Marengo Township. This land he still owns, and here his sons, George A. and John E., still live. He is also the owner of 90 acres in Dunham Township, upon which he now resides. His children are: George A., born in McHenry County, April 1, 1862; John E., born at Tripoli, Iowa, Dec. 19, 1863; and Hattie M., born at Tripoli, Jan. 22, 1866. Mrs. Carmack died March 15, 1896. Mr. Carmack is a member of the Methodist church, in which he holds the office of trustee and steward, and has been a Sunday school teacher for fifty years, from the time when he was sixteen years old. In politics he is a Republican and takes an earnest interest in polit-

ical affairs in which he has been, at times, an active worker. While in Iowa he served as Justice of the Peace and was Collector of Taxes in Dunham Township, McHenry County, in 1860. Fraternally he is an unaffiliated Mason of Marengo Lodge. During his residence in Iowa, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Joseph E. Robinson, Mr. Carmack built a saw-mill, which they ran for six years. He is an expert stationary engineer and a practical surveyor, and has been an occasional contributor to the local press.

#### MERVILLE A. CARMACK.

Merville A. Carmack, lawyer, Harvard, Ill. is one of the youngest members of the McHenry County bar, with offices in both Woodstock and Harvard. Mr. Carmack was born on his father's farm in Dunham Township, McHenry County, August 23, 1872, the son of Abram and Caroline (Niewerth) Carmack. (See sketch of William A. Carmack for Carmack family history.) Merville A. received his education in the district school and the Harvard High School, graduating from the latter in 1891. His parents died in February, 1892, and for the next two years he managed the home farm of 200 acres. In the fall of 1894, he entered the Sac County Normal School, at Sac City, Iowa, which he attended for one year, when he entered the Illinois State University at Champaign. Owing to ill-health he was compelled to return home, however, and there resumed management of the home farm and engaged in the buying and selling of stock, which he continued for two years. He then entered the law office of Judge O. H. Gillmore, as a student of law, continuing his reading for the next two years when, in 1902, he was finally admitted to the bar and immediately began practice with satisfactory results. Although one of the youngest members of the McHenry bar, Mr. Carmack has a promising future. In political opinions he is a Republican, but being a man of independent views, is in no sense of the term a strict partisan, in local affairs being the advocate of good men and sound measures. Personally he is a man of unimpeachable integrity and correct life, and is building up for himself a good reputation at the bar as a reliable and capable at-

torney. He is a man of property, being the owner of a farm of 200 acres.

**GEORGE W. FIELD.**

George W. Field, Woodstock, Ill., prominent attorney and Master in Chancery for McHenry County, was born in Woodstock, McHenry County, Jan. 18, 1870, the son of Albert F. and Addie (Walton) Field. George W. received his early education in the public schools of Woodstock, and then became clerk in the office of his father, who at that time was the Station Agent at Woodstock for the Chicago & Northwestern Railway. During 1894-95 he attended the Law Department of the University of Chicago from which he graduated, meanwhile reading law in the office of W. S. Lumley, a prominent attorney of Woodstock. In 1896 he was formally admitted to the bar, and during the next five years, remained in the office of Mr. Lumley, who was then State's Attorney, and to whom he gave a full share of assistance in the duties of that office. In 1900 he established himself in business alone, and has met with marked success; during the same year he was appointed Master in Chancery for McHenry County, a position which he still holds; at an earlier date served four years as City Clerk, when, in 1897, he was chosen City Attorney, serving until 1903 and proving himself a capable official in these several offices.

On May 17, 1901, Mr. Field became a member of the Illinois National Guard, and was immediately commissioned First Lieutenant of Company G, Third Infantry, on Dec. 3, 1901, being promoted to the captaincy of his company. Fraternally Mr. Field is a member of the Order of Elks, Lodge No. 4, Chicago. The notable success which has attended Mr. Field's career furnishes conclusive evidence of his ability and the confidence of the people of McHenry County. In politics he is a Republican.

**ALBERT F. FIELD.**

The Field family is of Colonial and Puritan blood, descended from English ancestors, who settled in New England at an early day, the McHenry County branch being of the same general stock as the late Cyrus W. Field, whose ancestors were long residents of Stockbridge, Mass. The particular branch of the family

of which we write were early settlers in Vermont. Oliver Field, the grandfather of Albert F. Field, was the son of a Revolutionary soldier and he was a soldier of the War of 1812, taking part with the Vermont troops in the battle on Lake Champlain. He and his wife were parents of the following named children: Oliver F., Charles C., Martha and Julia. Oliver Field came to Elk Grove, Cook County, Ill., in 1844, with his wife and sons, and there spent the latter years of his life with his son Oliver F., dying at the age of about seventy years. He was a Presbyterian in religious belief, and was buried in Elk Grove Cemetery. His wife lived to be about ninety years old, dying at Barrington, Ill. Oliver F. Field, the oldest son of this family, and father of Albert F., was born on his father's farm in Vermont, received the ordinary common-school education of his native New England, grew up a farmer and, in 1844, removed with his family overland by teams to Elk Grove, Cook County, Ill., where he settled on a tract of 110 acres of Government land, which he improved and upon which he lived for ten years. He then removed to Arlington Heights, Cook County—at that time known as Dunton—where he was engaged in farming, but in 1866 became a resident of Lake County, buying there a farm of 160 acres. This farm he soon after sold when he again moved to Barrington, Cook County, and there died in 1868, aged 53 years. Oliver F. Field was married twice; the first time in Vermont, and of this marriage two children were born—Albert F., near Waitsfield, Vt., Jan. 20, 1841, and Edward C., in Illinois, September, 1844. His first wife having died soon after settling in Illinois, Mr. Field married as his second wife, Narcissa Miner, daughter of Dr. Frederick T. Miner, the pioneer settler of Elk Grove, who located there at an early period when the Indians were still occupying the lands in that section and were a source of considerable trouble to the early settlers. The children by the second marriage were: Flora, Floyd, Ella, Frank, Ida, Frederick, Kate, Minnie, Fannie and Charles. Mr. Field was a typical pioneer and a man of sterling character.

Albert F. Field, born in Vermont, Jan. 20, 1841, was about three years of age when his family moved to Illinois. Here he grew up



among pioneer surroundings, and entertains a high regard for the sturdy integrity and simplicity of character of the early settlers, and the natural lives led by the members of a community in which there was seldom occasion to appeal even to a Justice of the Peace. He has a vivid recollection of scenes connected with that early period—especially the prairie fires which annually swept over large areas of country—consuming grass and weeds as high as a man's head, and often imperiling both life and property. In childhood Mr. Field had but limited opportunity of acquiring an education in the pioneer schools of Elk Grove, but the family having removed to Dunton (now Arlington Heights) when he was about thirteen years old, he there attended school three winter terms while working on the farm during the summer, and under the instruction of a better teacher, obtained a good knowledge of the common branches and became especially expert in arithmetic. When about sixteen years of age he found employment as clerk in a general store at Dunton, where he remained six years, when he accepted the position of Station Agent at Dunton for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. This position he retained four years, when he went to Lake County, and there spent nearly one year with his father on the farm. On July 22, 1867, he became Station Agent of the Chicago & Northwestern at Woodstock, continuing until April, 1887—a period of nearly twenty years. Retiring from the position in connection with the Chicago & Northwestern, he then engaged in the coal business, to which he has since added the insurance business. He served two years as Secretary of the McHenry County Agricultural Society, and a like period as Treasurer of the same organization.

On September 7, 1864, Albert F. Field was married, at Arlington Heights, Ill., to Addie F. Walton, born in Maine Township, Cook County, May 26, 1843, the daughter of John W. and Catherine (Johnson) Walton, and they had three children born to them; Clara, born at Dunton, Ill., June 7, 1865; George W., born Jan. 18, 1870, and Ethel, born Nov. 28, 1877—the last two born in Woodstock. Clara married Jesse M. Austin, of Chicago, and they have one child, Gordon. Ethel married S. A. Greenleaf, now bookkeeper of the Oliver Type-

writer Company, Woodstock. Mrs. Albert F. Field died in Woodstock, August 2, 1902, deeply mourned by her family and a large circle of friends.

John W. Walton was a Chicago pioneer and assisted to build the second frame house in that city. Later he settled on a farm in Maine Township, Cook County, and held the office of Justice of the Peace in his township. In 1849 he visited California as a gold-seeker. His children were named Catherine and Addie F. Mr. Walton died at the home of his son-in-law, Albert F. Field, aged about 75 years.

Edward C. Field, a brother of Albert F., was a soldier of the Civil War, serving in the Chicago Board of Trade Battery, and participated in a number of important engagements. He was killed in battle before Atlanta during the campaign in Northern Georgia.

Albert F. Field is a Republican in politics, and served one year as a member of the Woodstock Board of Alderman. He is also a charter member of the Woodstock A. O. U. W. Descended from that class of patriots who won our national independence over a century ago, he inherits that marked decision of character which bespeaks the typical American citizen, and enables him to rely upon his own judgment without leaning upon that of another man. Outspoken and frank in manner, his word is trusted implicitly where he is best known, while his rugged honesty commands universal respect.

#### JOHN MARSHALL.

John Marshall, venerable pioneer and Civil War veteran, Harvard, McHenry County, Ill. is of Scotch-Irish descent—ancestors of the family having emigrated at a remote period from Scotland and settled in County Armagh, Ireland. William Marshall, great-grandfather of John Marshall, was a farmer at Market Hill, near the city of Armagh, and is believed to have been the first of the family to own the farm on which he lived. His wife was a Miss McCune. John Marshall, a son of William Marshall, married a Miss Agnes Blair, inherited his father's farm of sixty acres, and here spent his life. The children of John and Agnes (Blair) Marshall were: Hugh, David, William, Sarah, Margaret, Mary and one daughter whose name is not remembered. In religious faith



the family were Scotch Presbyterians. John Marshall died on his farm, aged 84 years.

Hugh Marshall, of this family and father of John Marshall of McHenry County, was born on the paternal homestead in Ireland, received a good education, and married Margaret Ferguson, who was born in 1808 near her husband's birth-place, the daughter of William and Eliza (Watson) Ferguson. Their children were: Martha J., born Feb. 15, 1832, and married William Paul; John (subject of this sketch), born June 11, 1834; William, born July 1, 1836; Agnes, born April, 1840, married Peter Fitzer; Hugh, born Nov. 3, 1845; Elizabeth, born March, 1848, married James B. Huynzman; Thomas, born Sept. 16, 1850; Robert J., born Jan. 21, 1855. Hugh Marshall lived after his marriage on a farm which he had inherited in the neighborhood of his birth-place, until 1843, when, on April 27th of that year, he left Liverpool on a sailing-vessel, the "Patrick Henry," for America, the voyage to New York occupying twenty-one days. His family at that time consisted of his wife and the five older children, the remaining four children being born in Illinois. From New York he came by steamer up the Hudson to Albany, thence by canal and railroad to Buffalo, and from there by lake steamer to Chicago. Proceeding with his family by private conveyance, he went from Chicago to Boone County, arriving at Belvidere, June 7, 1843, and finally settling two miles northeast of that city, where he bought 175 acres of land from the original purchasers from the Government. This land had received but little improvement, being without a house and only a small portion of it broken. Here Mr. Marshall erected a brick house, which was one of the first of its kind in that neighborhood, and made other valuable improvements. Seven years later (1850) he removed to Chemung Township, McHenry County, where he bought 330 acres of land which had some improvement on it, including a log-house. This land he still further improved, erecting on it good buildings, and here spent the remainder of his life, dying in February, 1864, aged about fifty-seven years. His wife lived to the age of over eighty years. Hugh Marshall was originally an old-line Whig, later a Free-Soiler, and finally one of the original members of the Republican party in

McHenry County. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, in which he held the office of deacon. Three of his sons—William, David and John—served as soldiers of the Civil War. William enlisted as a private in Company H, First Illinois Artillery, and veteranized at the termination of his period of enlistment—in all serving over three years and eight months. During his term of service, he took part in the battle of Shiloh, the siege of Vicksburg, the Atlanta campaign, and many other important movements and engagements, including the memorable "March to the Sea" under Sherman. He died in April, 1902, at the age of about sixty-six years. David was a private in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving three years, and participating in the Vicksburg and Atlantic campaigns.

John Marshall, principal subject of this sketch, born in County Armagh, Ireland, June 11, 1834, was between eight and nine years old when he came with his parents to America in 1848, and well remembers incidents of the long journey by ocean and by the lakes from Liverpool to Illinois. He entered the schools of his native country at four years of age and, before leaving Ireland, had obtained several years of schooling, but after coming to Boone County, attended school there until about fifteen years of age.

December 17, 1858, he was married, in Leroy Township, Boone County, to Mary Jane Thompson, born in Providence, R. I., May 12, 1836, the daughter of James and Eliza (McCullough) Thompson, who were also of Scotch-Irish ancestry. After marriage Mr. Marshall settled on a tract of eighty acres of land on which he had previously built a house, and upon which he and his family continued to reside twenty-seven years. In the meantime he made additions to his land until he was the owner of 180 acres, constituting a well improved farm with good buildings. The children of Mr. and Mrs. John Marshall are: Harriet, born March 17, 1863; Margaret, born March 31, 1870; and Jane Elizabeth, born May 1, 1877. Mr. Marshall's war service, already alluded to, was as a private in Company I, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, in which he enlisted at Belvidere, Oct. 1, 1861, and was mustered in Nov. 30, following. His company commander was Capt.

William M. Chichester, and the first commander of the regiment Col. A. G. Brackett. After a service of fifteen months, Mr. Marshall was discharged on account of disability incurred in the field. His service was chiefly in Missouri and in Arkansas, where he took part in a number of skirmishes. That in Missouri was especially severe, being employed in the pursuit of and fighting bushwhackers and guerrillas. Much of the last few months was spent in hospital at St. Louis and, later, in Quincy, where he was finally discharged, Dec. 15, 1862. A daughter was born to Mr. Marshall during his absence in the field.

Having returned home, after recruiting his health Mr. Marshall turned his attention to improving his farm, upon which he continued to live until 1886, when he retired from active life as a farmer, settling in Harvard, where he now resides. He still owns his farm of 180 acres, which has developed into a valuable property. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which he has held the office of elder for more than thirty years.

Mr. Marshall is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and has served as Commander of his Post for nine years. In politics he is a zealous Republican, was present at a mass convention held at Woodstock, August 27, 1854, at which the first steps were taken for the organization of the party in McHenry County, and cast his first vote for President for John C. Fremont in 1856, and four and eight years later for Mr. Lincoln. For the past four years he has been President of the Chemung and Dunham Republican Club.

Mr. Marshall's three daughters have been well educated. Margaret and Jane are both graduates of the Harvard High School, and Margaret was a teacher in the Harvard public schools for seven years. The elder daughter, Harriet, married Frank Demunn, a farmer of Boone County, and they have children named: Jay M., Roy P., Floyd S., Merritt T., Paul Kenneth and Mary. Margaret married John B. Rumsey, who is a general merchant at El Cajon, Cal. Jane E. married A. L. Tibbetts, who is employed in a general store at El Cajon, Cal.

James Thompson, the father of Mrs. John Marshall, was a native of North of Ireland,

born about 1812, the son of James and Mary (King) Thompson. His parents being then deceased, when about twenty years of age James Thompson came to America, settling in Providence, R. I., where he followed the occupation of a thread-bleacher. In May, 1835, he married in Providence, Eliza McCullough, daughter of James and Hannah (Faulkner) McCullough, and they had children named: Mary Jane, born August 24, 1836; Elizabeth Ann, born Dec. 21, 1843; Sarah M. born Nov. 30, 1845. Mr. Thompson having come to Illinois in the hope of benefitting his health, bought eighty acres of land in Squaw Prairie, Boone County, but remained only a short time, when he returned to Rhode Island. In 1857 he came to Chemung Township, McHenry County, bought a small place for a home and there died, May 20, 1868, aged about fifty-six years. He was a Republican in politics and, in religious belief, a Presbyterian, being an elder in the church both in Rhode Island and in Illinois.

#### JOSEPH M. HARRIS.

The Harris family in America is descended from James and Sarah (Dennison) Harris, who were married in Boston in 1666. James Harris, who was of an ancient British family, came from England. The branch of the family to which he belonged had a coat of arms.

Richard Harris, the great-grandfather of Joseph M. Harris, whose name heads this sketch, was of colonial New England ancestry and emigrated from Massachusetts to New York at an early day, settling in Ogden, Monroe County, in the latter State, where he cleared up a farm and made potash for years. He owned a considerable tract of land which was inherited by his descendants. His children were: John, Caleb, Richard, Ceila, Polly, Lucy and Armilla. The family were Presbyterians in religious faith. Richard Harris died on his New York farm.

John Harris, the oldest son of this family and grandfather of Joseph M., was born in Massachusetts, Jan. 13, 1807, received the ordinary common-school education, and became a farmer. On October 3, 1833, he was married in Ogden, N. Y., to Abigail McArthur, who was born Nov. 7, 1808. He settled in Ogden, where he bought 100 acres of unim-



proved land, which he cleared up from the woods and built on it a log-house and a frame barn. He later sold the farm and located on an improved farm of 125 acres in the town of Gates, where he spent the latter part of his life, dying there Nov. 11, 1853, his wife having died March 24, 1852. Their children were: Emily F., born April 17, 1836; Joseph S., born Nov. 22, 1840; John Charles, born June 23, 1842; Marietta, born April 14, 1844; and Ann Adella, born August 15, 1848. The parents were members of the Presbyterian church. Two of the sons—Joseph and John Charles—were soldiers of the Civil War. Joseph S. first served as a private in the Twenty-Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, taking part in a number of battles. Still later he re-enlisted in the One Hundred and Eighth New York Volunteer Infantry, in which he served as First Lieutenant and Quarter-Master.

John Charles Harris, the other brother referred to, and father of the principal subject of this sketch, was born in Ogden, N. Y., received a common-school education, and for a time attended a preparatory school at Brockport, N. Y., after which he spent some time in the preparatory department of Oberlin College, Ohio. In July, 1862, he enlisted at Rochester, N. Y., as a private in Company B, One Hundred and Eighth New York Volunteers, served out his term of three years and was honorably discharged at Bailey's Cross Roads, Va., in 1865. His service was with the Army of the Potomac, the last two years being in the capacity of Quarter-Master's Sergeant, to which he was appointed from the ranks. He was married Nov. 15, 1865, at Succasunna Plains, in Morris County, N. J., to Cordelia S. Merritt, who was born in Morris County, N. J., June 26, 1844, the daughter of Daniel L. Merritt. Her parents were natives of Vermont and of colonial ancestry. Their children were: Munson Hampton, George, Jennie, Ellen and Virginia. Daniel L. Merritt died in Coral, McHenry County, at the home of his grandson Joseph M. Harris.

After marriage John C. Harris settled in Ogden, N. Y., where he bought 100 acres of land and carried on farming for five years, after which he moved to Morris County, N. J., remaining there three years. In 1876 he came west with his family, first locating in

Chicago, where he remained three months, and later in Blue Island, Cook County. Then (about 1878) removing to Marengo, McHenry County, he remained there five years, during a part of this time being engaged in farming. In 1884 he established himself in the draying business at Harvard, which, five years later, he extended to general teaming, continuing until about two years ago (1901) when he became a Rural Mail Carrier. In political opinions Mr. Harris is a stalwart Republican and has served two terms as Highway Commissioner for Chemung Township. He is a non-affiliated Mason and member of the J. B. Morgan Post, G. A. R., Harvard, Ill. His children are: Etta, born Nov. 17, 1866, John C., born August 14, 1871; and Joseph M., born July 4, 1875. Joseph M. received his education in the public school of Harvard and the Atchison Business College, at Atchison, Kansas, from which he graduated. Then, having returned to Harvard, he entered into the employment as book-keeper of the E. L. Church manufactory; later was engaged for two years as a clerk in W. R. Collins' clothing store, and finally, in 1896, became book-keeper for Mr. James Lake, lumber-dealer. Since 1899 Mr. Harris has been a member of this firm, now doing business under the name of Lake & Harris.

On November 30, 1898, Mr. Harris was married, at Harvard, Ill., to Grace Louisa Lake, daughter of James and Mary (Burditt) Lake, and they have one daughter, Sylvia Lourine, born April 13, 1903. In politics he is a Republican and fraternally a Mason, being a member of the Blue Lodge and Harvard Chapter. He has proved himself a successful business man, and maintains a high reputation for integrity of character.

#### JOSEPH I. LANG.

Joseph I. Lang, rising young lawyer, Richmond, Ill., was born in Ypsilanti, Mich., Jan. 30, 1878, son of Cornelius and Jennie G. (Gunn) Lang. The father, Cornelius Lang, was a native of Michigan, but of German parentage. He married at Ypsilanti, Jennie G. Gunn, daughter of George Gunn, who was a native of Ireland, but came at an early day to Michigan, settling at Ypsilanti, where he became a contractor in the construction of



the Michigan Central Railroad. Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Lang were the parents of six children: George W., Elizabeth, Mary G., Joseph I., Jennie R. and Helen M. Their children received a liberal education at the State Normal School, Ypsilanti. Joseph I. received his primary education in the St. James Parochial School and the Ypsilanti High School, completing his education in the State Normal. While in the High School he was President of the "Sigma Delta," a Greek Letter society, was an officer of the military company and captain of the base-ball team.

In 1897 Mr. Lang went to Duluth, Minn., where he was employed as clerk by a lumber firm two years, at the expiration of this period entering in the employ of E. J. Stone, a bridge-contractor on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad. In 1899 he bought a one-third interest in this firm, which had the contract for building bridges on the Nippersink cut-off between the head of Fox Lake and Janesville. This contract resulted successfully. The company built ninety-nine bridges and culverts. Later it entered into a contract with the same road for the construction of bridges in Iowa and Minnesota. During a part of this time Mr. Lang was located at Preston, Iowa, and later at Rice Lake, Minn.

October 9, 1901, Mr. Lang was married at Ypsilanti, Mich., to Ella Lewis Knight, who was born in Providence, R. I., and received her education in the high school at Richmond, Ill. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Lang settled in Woodstock, and having sold out his interest in the firm of which he was a member, he retired from the contracting business.

On January 1, 1902, Mr. Lang entered the office of C. P. Barnes as a student of law, in the meantime taking a course in the Law Department of the Northwestern University. In politics he is an Independent. A young man of energy and native ability, he has won success in life by his own unaided effort, establishing for himself a reputation as a straight-forward and reliable business man. Since the above sketch was written Mr. Lang has established himself permanently in the practice of his profession at Richmond, McHenry County, where he is entering upon a prosperous career.

#### GEORGE ECKERT.

George Eckert, Woodstock, Ill., veteran of the Civil War and ex-Sheriff of McHenry County, was born in Alsace, then France, but now a province of Germany, Feb. 24, 1843, the son of Harry and Elizabeth (Herdklotz) Eckert. Henry Eckert removed to the central part of France and spent the latter years of his life near Paris, where he died. His children were: Henry, Elizabeth, Catherine, Michael, Lena, Peter, George and Jacob B. After the death of her husband Mrs. Eckert came with her family to America in 1849, her oldest son, Henry, having already located in St. Louis. From New York she came to Waukegan, and thence to Queen Ann Prairie, McHenry County. Her children immediately began to support themselves. Mrs. Eckert lived with her brother, Peter Herdklotz, a few years, but later lived with her children, dying at the age of 84 years. In religious faith the family were German Presbyterians.

George Eckert was but six years old when he came with his mother and family to America, and well remembers the voyage on an old-fashioned sailing-vessel, occupying thirty-six days. He first lived with his relatives, but soon began farm work at \$4 per month and his food, during the season earning \$36. During the winters he attended the district school in Queen Ann Prairie, and thus acquired a common-school education. In 1858, when nearly sixteen years of age, he obtained employment in the store of A. W. Fuller & Co.—later Fuller & Sherwood—general merchants at Woodstock, where he remained until the summer of 1862, when, on August 14, he enlisted as a private in Company F, Ninety-fifth Volunteer Infantry, served his term of three years and was honorably discharged at Springfield, Ill., in August, 1855. Soon after his enlistment he was appointed to the office of Sergeant, later was advanced to Orderly Sergeant, and, near the close of the war, received a commission as Second Lieutenant of his company. During his term of service he took part with his regiment in the important battles of the campaign which ended with the capture of Vicksburg, in the Red River expedition with Banks, in the disastrous Guntown affair, was under fire at Nashville, and was present at the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, which preceded the fall of Mobile. In all this time he was never wounded or a pris-

oner, never in hospital and suffered no severe sickness.

Returning after his military service to Woodstock, during the following winter he engaged in buying and selling produce, but in 1866 became a clerk in the general store of Philbrick & James, continuing until they sold out, to Thomas & Son, with whom he remained six months. For the next eighteen years he was clerk in the general store of J. T. & A. L. Salisbury, but in 1886 was elected Sheriff of McHenry County, serving one term of four years. He then engaged in the grocery business for four years, when he was again elected to the office of Sheriff, and since the expiration of his term of service has held the position of Deputy Sheriff. Mr. Eckert has also been a member of Woodstock City Council for sixteen years, and served two terms as Collector of Dorr Township. A staunch Republican in politics, he maintains a high reputation for loyalty to his friends and as a public-spirited citizen.

Mr. Eckert has been twice married, his first wife being Amy Green, who was born in New York, the daughter of Robert and Amy (Curtis) Green. (See sketch of Barney Terwilliger in this volume.) Mrs. Amy (Green) Eckert bore her husband two children: Willis, who died in infancy, and Georgia. Mrs. Eckert having died, Mr. Eckert married Rhoda Green, a sister of his first wife, with whom he now resides in their home in Woodstock. Mr. Green is an honored member of the Woodstock Post, G. A. R., in which he holds the office of Quartermaster, and is Past Commander. Self-made and self-educated, he has won a remarkable success in life through his individual efforts, and enjoys in an eminent degree the confidence of his fellow citizens.

#### BEARDSLEY LAKE.

Beardsley Lake, pioneer settler of Walworth County, Wis., and for over thirty-five years a resident of Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., was born in Otsego County, N. Y., Aug. 13, 1814, the son of Rev. Phipps Waldo and Rebecca (Beardsley) Lake; grew up on a farm and attended a country school during the winter season, while doing farm work in the summer until he was seventeen years old, when he became a clerk in the general store of Willard R. Wheeler, and later in that of Elliott Graves. October 16, 1836, he was married at Ames, N. Y., to Mary K. Welch,

who was born in New York State, near the line of Otsego County, Oct. 1, 1812. After marriage Mr. Lake settled on his father's farm, which he managed on shares for two years, when, in the spring of 1840, he moved west, settling in Walworth County, Wis., where his father had located a few months earlier. Here he bought the north half of a tract of 640 acres of land upon which his father had settled the fall previous. He lived for a time with his father's family in a primitive log house, built in pioneer style, with clap-board roof, but later erected a story-and-a-half frame house, which for some time was the best house in Big Foot Prairie. The lumber for this house was hauled from Chicago and Kenosha, Wis., while the finishing, including doors, window frames, sash, etc., were made on the spot. Here Mr. Lake lived with his family for twenty-seven years. His children were: Charles W., born Sept. 30, 1837; David D., born Dec. 23, 1839—both born in Ames, Montgomery County, N. Y.—with six others born in Walworth County, Wis., viz.: Mary L., born Dec. 15, 1841; George W., born July 13, 1845; Arthur B., born July 16, 1848; James, born Sept. 23, 1850; Jennie W., born Jan. 1, 1853; Fremont, born Oct. 10, 1857. Mr. Lake improved his land until he had one of the most valuable farms in Walworth County, also bought forty acres more of land, which he subsequently sold, but still retains the original homestead of 320 acres. In April, 1852, in company with a party of men from Big Foot Prairie, Mr. Lake started across the plains for California, crossing the Missouri river at Council Bluffs, Iowa. Mr. Lake drove an ox-team, walking the whole distance, the journey occupying five months. Arrived in California, he followed mining successfully on Feather River, but finally returned by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York. In 1861 he made a second trip to California, this time remaining in the mining business eighteen months, when he returned to the States. Originally an old-line Whig, Mr. Lake became one of the early Republicans of his locality, voting for Fremont and Dayton in 1856 and for Lincoln and Hamlin in 1860. He served as the first Assessor of Walworth Township, and was Supervisor of his township for several terms during the Civil War period. In the latter position he was able to render valuable service in raising funds to pay bounties for the encouragement of enlistments,



thereby avoiding the necessity for a draft to fill the quota of Walworth County. He also served his township as Road Commissioner for a time. Before leaving New York he was a member of the State militia, filling various positions from that of Corporal to Captain.

September 23, 1867, Mr. Lake moved from Walworth County, Wis., to Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., where, for the next three years, he lived in practical retirement. At the end of this period he engaged in the lumber business at Harvard, in partnership with Cyrus Clark. A few years later Levi Lake became a member of the firm and they did an extensive business. Levi Lake eventually sold out, the firm remaining Lake & Clark for some years, when James Lake, the son of Beardsley Lake, purchased the interest of Mr. Clark, the firm then becoming Lake & Son. Three years later Mr. Beardsley Lake sold his interest in the concern to A. D. Crumb, and has since lived a retired life in his home at Harvard.

By a life of industry, prudent management and honest methods, Mr. Lake has had a successful business career, and accumulated a handsome property.

#### JAMES LAKE.

James Lake, lumber dealer and prominent citizen of Harvard, McHenry County, was born in Big Foot Prairie, Walworth County, Wis., Sept. 23, 1850, the son of Beardsley and Mary (Welch) Lake, and received his education in the public schools while working on the farm during the summer months. In 1867, when about seventeen years of age, he came with his parents to Harvard, McHenry County, and there attended school two years longer. In 1871, in company with his brother Arthur, he returned to his father's farm in Walworth County, Wis., which they carried on for the next two years, after which James managed the farm alone for some time.

November 4, 1874, Mr. Lake was married at Harvard, Ill., to Mary Emma Burditt, after which they settled on the Wisconsin farm, remaining until 1876, when they removed to Harvard, where he engaged in the livery business in company with Joseph Swinney. This partnership lasted one year, when Mr. Lake, having sold his interest in the livery business to Mr. Swinney, purchased a half interest in the lumber firm of Lake & Clark, of which his

father, Beardsley Lake, was a member, and ever since has been engaged in the lumber trade on an extensive scale. Mr. Clark having retired, the firm was, for three years Lake & Son, when Mr. A. D. Crumb bought out the interest of the father, Beardsley Lake, and the firm became Lake & Crumb for the next six years. Mr. Lake then became sole proprietor of the concern, conducting the business alone for eighteen years, but in 1900 he sold a half interest to his son-in-law, J. M. Harris, since when the business has been carried on under the name of Lake & Harris.

Throughout his business career Mr. Lake has given evidence of a degree of energy and practical foresight which has been rewarded with a good degree of success. Besides his lumberyard property, Mr. Lake is the owner of three large farms in McHenry County, aggregating 500 to 600 acres, three houses and lots in Harvard, with valuable lots at Geneva Lake, Glenwood Springs and Riverdale, a suburb of Chicago. In political relations he is a stanch Republican, and in 1900 was elected Supervisor of Chemung Township and re-elected in 1902. Fraternally he is a Mason, a member of Harvard Lodge and Woodstock Commandery Knights Templar, and also of Knights of the Globe.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lake are parents of the following named children: Grace Louise, born Nov. 23, 1875; Ruby Mary, born Nov. 23, 1881; George Burditt, born Feb. 26, 1890. Grace Louise graduated from Harvard High School in 1895, and, on Nov. 30, 1898, was married to Joseph Merritt Harris, who is now a partner of his father-in-law, Mr. James Lake, in the lumber business under the firm name of Lake & Harris. Mr. and Mrs. Harris have one child, Sylvia Lourine, born April 13, 1903. Mr. James Lake's youngest daughter, Ruby Mary, graduated from Harvard High School in 1900, attended Ferry Hall, at Lake Forrest, Ill., 1900-01, and is now devoting her attention to vocal music at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Lake are members of the Congregational church, of which he is a trustee. Mrs. James Lake (nee Burditt) was born in South Danville, Steuben County, N. Y., July 17, 1853, the daughter of Thomas and Mary Ann (Ojers) Burditt, and came with her parents to Harvard, McHenry County, Ill., in 1869. The family is of mixed Colonial New England and Holland-Dutch stock. The father, Thomas Burditt, was born





James Lake



Mrs James Lake



in Rutland, Vt., Nov. 16, 1822, the son of George and Millie (Wadsworth) Burditt. George Burditt was born Jan. 13, 1796, was a Vermonter by birth, and was engaged in business as a trader in live stock. Sometime prior to 1830 he moved to Steuben County, N. Y., and there settled on a farm, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying August. 17, 1851. He was a member of the Methodist church. His first wife was Millie Wadsworth, born in 1795, the daughter of David and Eleanor (Capen) Wadsworth, and died in 1839. David Wadsworth was a descendant in the sixth generation from Christopher Wadsworth, the progenitor of the American branch of the family, who came from England to Massachusetts Bay Colony on the ship "Lion" in 1632, and whose descendants were among the noted colonial families in New England. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, through the maternal branch, was of this family. In England the genealogy of the family is traced back many generations. The Wadsworths of Perristone, County of York, England, were of this stock and were the possessors of a coat-of-arms. A very complete genealogical record of the American Wadsworths has been published.

Thomas Burditt, the father of Mrs. Lake, was taken by his parents when a child to South Danville, N. Y., received an ordinary education and became a blacksmith by trade. On February 25, 1847, he was married to Mary Ann Ojers, born in London, England, Oct. 28, 1822, the daughter of Peter and Mary (Barton) Ojers. Peter Ojers was a native of Holland, and was engaged in the spice trade, his father, who was a wealthy man, being a member of an East India spice firm. On the division of his father's estate, Peter took as his share a ship with which he went to England. This vessel was afterwards captured in some war. Peter Ojers married Oct. 20, 1812, Mary Barton, an English woman, and their children were: Richard, John and Mary Ann. Richard came to Albany, N. Y., where he was a banker, and his father and family, coming over still later, settled at South Danville, N. Y., in 1836, and here the father lived until his death in 1860. Thomas Burditt lived here many years, and he and his wife had the following named children: Maria Louise, born March 25, 1849; Mary Emma, born July 17, 1853. In 1869 Mr. Burditt came with his family to Harvard, McHenry County, and

here died, Nov. 6, 1893, and his wife Dec. 24, 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Burditt were members of the Methodist church, and in politics he was a Democrat. During his residence at South Danville, N. Y., he served for many years as a Justice of the Peace.

Mrs. James. Lake received a good education, being first a pupil in the South Danville Seminary, in New York State, and, after coming to Illinois, in the Harvard High School.

#### LA FAYETTE THOMAS.

LaFayette Thomas is descended from a family of Illinois pioneers prominently identified with the early history of McHenry County, being the son of LaFayette and Arvilla (French) Thomas. The father, LaFayette Thomas, Sr., came to Illinois with two brothers, Nelson and Stanton M., in 1835. (See sketch of Stanton M. Thomas in this volume.) These brothers took up land in the western part of Lake County near the McHenry County line, now known as the "Powell place," but later entered 320 acres of land at what is now Cary Station, McHenry County, and here the brothers assisted in improving the farm.

LaFayette Thomas, Sr., married in Algonquin Township Arvilla French, daughter of Joshua French, a pioneer settler of McHenry County. Almira, a sister of Arvilla French, married Mr. Thomas's brother, Stanton M. The sisters were both early teachers in McHenry County, Arvilla being a teacher in the Munshaw district, where she boarded with Hosea B. Troop. LaFayette Thomas, Sr., built a log-house on his land, in which he lived until 1867, when he erected a substantial brick residence which is still standing. He bought the interest of his brother, Stanton M., in this land, and made additions to the farm until he became the owner of 329 acres, besides sixty-eight acres in Lake County, where the original settlement was made. He was a typical pioneer and expert hunter, and coming to Illinois when the country abounded in game, and when creeks and lakes were stocked with fish, he and his brothers had no difficulty in providing the family with meat. Timber wolves and foxes were numerous, and flocks of wild ducks and geese swarmed on the rivers and often fed in the corn-fields. A rifle which Mr. Thomas brought with him from New York and used in his many hunting expeditions, is still preserved as a valued



relic of pioneer days by his son. In politics originally a Democrat, on the formation of the Republican party, he allied himself with that organization. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were: Marion J., who married William T. Hamilton, and they have one daughter, Mary G., who married Alva H. Hale of Nunda; Mary, died aged fourteen years; Dora W.; LaFayette, Jr., born March 18, 1857; Berr W., born Dec. 26, 1860. In October, 1881, Mr. Thomas moved to Diamond Prairie, Newton County, Mo., where he and his son Berr bought 120 acres of unimproved land upon which they built a residence, and which they otherwise improved. About four years later Mr. Thomas moved to Carthage, Mo., where he bought residence property, which he still further improved, and where he finally died, Feb. 6, 1899, aged seventy-four years. His widow still survives at the venerable age of eighty-nine years.

LaFayette Thomas, Jr., born on the paternal homestead, March 18, 1857, received the usual common school education and grew up a farmer. On September 28, 1882, when about twenty-five years of age, he was married near Nunda, McHenry County, to Carrie Munshaw, who was born Nov. 13, 1861, the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Newton) Munshaw. Since his marriage Mr. Thomas has lived on the old homestead at Cary Station, where he built a pleasant residence which he now occupies. In 1895 he erected a two-story frame house adjoining his home, which he has since sold. Mr. Thomas is a member of the Town Council and, for six years, has been a member of the School Board. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are parents of the following children: Ethel C., born Oct. 28, 1883; Glenn Earl, born Feb. 28, 1885; Audrey, born December, 1897; LaFayette, born Oct. 20, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have an ideal home, and are prominent citizens of Cary Station. Their two older children, Ethel C. and Glenn Earl, are pupils in Elgin Academy, from which Ethel will graduate in 1904.

John Munshaw, the father of Mrs. LaFayette Thomas, was born at Youngstown, Ontario, about 1818, the son of John and Catherine (Fulton) Munshaw. John Munshaw, Sr., was a native of Massachusetts, and of mixed Irish, French and German ancestry. The Fulton branch of the family were of the same general stock as Robert Fulton, the inventor of the

steam-boat. John Munshaw, Jr., was a farmer, and owned a farm near Youngstown, Ontario. In 1861 he moved to Illinois, where he became the owner of a farm of 103 acres, and here he died Aug. 28, 1891, aged seventy-three years, two months and four days. Elizabeth (Newton) Munshaw, his wife, was born Nov. 9, 1837, the daughter of Thomas and Sophia Newton, who were of English descent. They were the parents of the following named children: Sophia, born Feb. 7, 1858; Caroline, born Nov. 13, 1861; Edwin, born June 11, 1864; Thomas Arthur, born Dec. 20, 1866; Fred Albert, born in 1869; Mary Louisa, born March 16, 1870; Frances May, born May 1, 1871.

#### MORRIS S. M. WEST.

The West family in America are of Scotch-Irish extraction, according to tradition being descended from three brothers—Peleg, Elisha and one other whose name is not recalled—coming to the Colonies in the days of Puritan immigration. One of the descendants of the branch was Elisha West, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, who was a farmer near Rutland, Vt. Children of this family were: Cyrus, John, Polly, Christina and Jedediah. Elisha West was a talented musician, both as a performer and a composer; was also a teacher of instrumental and vocal music and author of a book of vocal lessons for which he composed the music. His son John, father of the subject of this sketch, was born near Rutland, Vt., Sept. 7, 1782, was a farmer by occupation, but, like his father, a natural musician and a teacher of vocal music, traveling extensively in the prosecution of his profession. He was also the author of a work on musical instruction in the publication of which he was associated with the late Lowell Mason, the celebrated composer and publisher of Boston, Mass. John West came to New York State, when a young man, where he was engaged in teaching, and at Utica in that State, on Jan. 17, 1807, was married to Sally Slayton, who was born in that city, Oct. 2, 1788, the daughter of David and Sally (Crossman) Slayton. David Slayton was born in England and became a sea-captain, in his early manhood commanding sea-going vessels, but later in life settled on a farm one mile west of Utica, N. Y., afterwards removing to Leroy, Genesee County, where he

bought 100 acres of unimproved land and opened up a farm. In his old age he sold this farm and removed to Bethany Center, where he lived with a son, finally dying about 1840, aged about eighty-six years. Mrs. Slayton died aged eighty-two. In politics Capt. Slayton was a Whig and in religious belief a Baptist. Their children were: Uriah, the only son who lived to manhood, and Sally, an only daughter.

John West and his wife Sally (Slayton) settled at Leroy, Genesee County, N. Y., on 100 acres of unimproved land, developed a farm, and gave singing lessons in that part of the country. In politics he was an old-line Whig. Their children were: Hiram, born Oct. 22, 1808; Melinda, born June 15, 1810; Ann Eliza, born Sept. 18, 1812; Harrison, born Dec. 15, 1814; Anson T., born April 1, 1817; Jane A., born Sept. 28, 1819—(still living in 1903); George W., born Jan. 18, 1822; Louisa, born June 10, 1824; Morris S. M. (subject of this sketch), born March 8, 1827. John West, the father of this family, died March 14, 1829, and his wife, Feb. 14, 1845. (This record is taken from the West family Bible). Mrs. West was a Baptist.

Morris S. M. West received a limited education in the common schools, and worked on the farm in his boyhood. His father having died when he was two years old, he was brought up by his mother, who died when he was about eighteen. During the latter years of her life, Mrs. West was supported by her son, Morris, who worked out for wages. Soon after the death of his mother, he began learning the blacksmith's trade at Linden, Genesee County, but eight months later went to Perry, N. Y., where he spent seven months in the same line. In 1849 he came to McHenry County, Ill., making the journey by way of the lakes and the Michigan Central Railroad to New Buffalo, Ind., and from there by steamer to Chicago, and arriving in Algonquin Township, June 23.

Here he bought a thrashing machine and engaged in thrashing grain the following fall, but soon after bought an 80-acre farm in Algonquin Township, one and a half miles north of Cary Station, which he still owns. This farm had no improvements except twenty-five acres broken. On March 8, 1854, he married in McHenry village Deborah Diantha Crabtree, born in Allegany County, N. Y., July 3, 1835, the

daughter of Newman and Sally (Hicks) Crabtree. (See sketch of George and William Crabtree in this volume.) After marriage Mr. West settled on the land he had bought, erected on it a small frame house, in which he lived until able to erect a more substantial residence, which he did in subsequent years, having now one of the best improved farms in the township. During the Civil War Mr. West carried on his business as a blacksmith at Cary Station and, in 1888, removed to that place permanently, erecting there the residence he now occupies. Mr. and Mrs. West are members of the Free Methodist Church in McHenry County, with which they have been identified for the past thirty-three years. For forty years he has been Superintendent of the Sabbath School in his neighborhood and, since 1887, has been a local preacher in his church; is also one of the church trustees. In politics he is a Prohibitionist. The children of Mr. and Mrs. West, with dates of birth, are: Ida M., Dec. 13, 1856; Inez C., May 29, 1859; Mary E., Aug. 7, 1877, (died aged five months).

Ida M. has been married twice: first, March 12, 1874, to Fred G. Thompson, and they had one child born to them, Josephine W., born Sept. 21, 1876. She married as her second husband, Nov. 16, 1876, Harvey W. Philip, who died in Elgin, Ill., May 6, 1900.

Inez C. married, August, 1878, Rev. Frank Miller of Crystal Lake, and they settled at Elgin. Their children are: Hugh A., Alta B., Earl (died in infancy), and Helen.

Mrs. Ida M. (West) Philip was educated in the public school at Cary and in Elgin Academy, and afterwards taught at Nunda, Udina (Kane County), Pingrey's Grove, Sycamore, Silver Lake, and in the Miller District in Algonquin Township. After the death of her second husband in May, 1900, Mrs. Philip returned to Cary Station, where she is now caring for her aged parents.

Hugh Miller, son of Rev. F. A. and Inez C. (West) Miller, married Edith Bonner, daughter of Dr. Bonner of Knox, Ind., and they have one child—Verne. Alta B. Miller married John B. Collin and they have one child—Harold.

Josephine W. Thompson, daughter of Mrs. Philip by her first marriage, lived with her grandparents until fifteen years of age, graduated from the Cary public school in 1892 and from the Elgin High School in 1896, later took



a course in the State Normal School at Normal, Ill., after which she engaged in teaching for nearly two years. March 8, 1899, she married L. A. McKenzie, who is station agent at Wooddale, Ill., and they have one child—Mary Leone, born Feb. 10, 1900.

#### LORENZO DOW LOWELL, M. D.

Among the older physicians of McHenry County stands the name of Dr. Lorenzo Dow Lowell, of Nunda. The family is of English origin, the founders of the American branch coming to Massachusetts Bay Colony, in the days of Puritan immigration between 1630 and 1640. Dr. Lowell, of McHenry County, is descended from the same stock as the late James Russell Lowell, the celebrated author, from whom in relationship he is not far removed.

Abraham Lowell, grandfather of Dr. Lowell, was a native of Massachusetts, and in early manhood left home with a brother, going on foot to New York State. This was before the days of improved roads and bridges, and they were in some cases obliged to swim rivers when the ice was forming. They settled in Schoharie County, N. Y., about ten miles from Cooperstown. Abraham Lowell married a Miss Inman, who was a native of Pennsylvania. The family were the owners of a very large amount of lands which afterwards became very valuable, part of it being coal lands. The title was directly from the Government, but the lands being held under leases covering a period of one hundred years, through neglect on the part of the occupants, in some cases these were allowed to lapse and great confusion as to ownership was the result. Abraham Lowell passed his last years in Schoharie County, dying between eighty and ninety years of age, his wife dying at the same place. Their children were: Nyrum, Abraham B., Reuben, Deloss, Clara, Hannah and Sarah Jane. The last named married Thomas Taylor, of Coopers-town, N. Y., and she is still living, at present being a resident of Chicago.

Abraham B., of this family, was born on his father's farm in Schoharie County, Jan. 30, 1804, received a limited common-school education, and proving a natural mechanic, followed brick-making for a time, and was also engaged in the manufacture of pumps, and established the water-works in Mohawk Village, N. Y., for

the canal and railroad purposes. He married Anna Seeber, who was born in Schoharie County, the daughter of William Seeber. The mother's maiden name was Cline, and both families were of German descent. The father, William Seeber, was an educated man and able to speak six different languages. He was a native of Schoharie County, and his father was one of five brothers who fought under Gen. Herkimer at the battle of Oriskany during the Revolutionary War. The British force was made up of Tories and Indians under command of Gen. St. Leger, and three of the Seeber brothers were killed and the two others wounded and crippled. William Seeber and wife were the parents of children named: Sylvanus, Luther, James, Anna, Betsy, Elizabeth and Nicholas. The parents died at an advanced age.

After marriage Abraham Lowell settled in Mohawk Village on the Mohawk River, where he lived many years. He and his wife were parents of the following named children: Clarissa, Darius, Lorenzo D., Celia A., Emory G. (who was a soldier in the Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers), Abraham A., Jane, Angevine D., Reuben D. and Othello. The last named died at the age of twenty-three years from injuries received in an accident at ten years of age. Abraham Lowell moved to Oneonta, Otsego County, N. Y., and there engaged in the manufacture of brick and pumps. In 1845 he moved to Sharon, Wis., coming by way of the canal and lakes to Kenosha, and thence by teams across the country. In the vicinity of Sharon he pre-empted eighty acres of Government land, which he improved and to which he made additions until he owned 528 acres. His wife having died he married at Nunda, Ill., Arvilla Olds, and later a third wife who is still living. Mr. Lowell gave farms to his five younger sons. He was a great admirer of Lorenzo Dow, the celebrated evangelist, for whom he named his second son and subject of this sketch, was a member of the Methodist Church and a class-leader. He died June 5, 1892.

Lorenzo Dow Lowell, born in Mohawk Village, N. Y., July 19, 1836, attended school in his native place until nine years of age, when he came with his father to Sharon, Wis. Here he attended the public school for a time and later was a pupil in an academy at Darien,



Wis., after which he taught one winter near Harvard, McHenry County, and still later at Sharon, Wis., where he made a specialty of mathematics. Meanwhile he studied Latin with a Rev. Mr. White and began the study of medicine with Dr. Reuben Willson of Sharon, Wis., with whom he practiced two years. In 1862 he came to Crystal Lake, McHenry County, and practiced in partnership with Dr. E. Ballou, after which during 1863-4 he was a student in Rush Medical College, Chicago. After an experience covering forty years, the Doctor is still in active practice.

July 2, 1862, Dr. Lowell was married in Wisconsin to Sarah Elizabeth Miller, born Aug. 27, 1842, daughter of Thomas and Anna (Ide) Miller. Thomas Miller was a native of Rensselaer County, N. Y., the son of Henry and Hannah (Wylie) Miller, was a shoemaker by trade and married in Columbia County, N. Y., Oct. 26, 1837, Hannah Ide, daughter of Oliver and Elizabeth (Salts) Ide. The Ide and Salts families were both of English origin, the Salts being of Quaker stock from Dutchess County, N. Y. Oliver Ide, a farmer, came to Wisconsin in 1841, where he improved a farm and where he finally died aged sixty-nine years. Thomas Miller and wife came to Wisconsin in 1844, settling near the Illinois State line, and owned land on both sides of the line. He and his wife were parents of the following named children: Ebenezer, Sarah, Orson, Edward and Thomas. The son Orson was a soldier in the Ninety-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers during the Civil War. Mr. Miller died on his farm Nov. 29, 1853, aged about forty years. Mrs. Miller lived with her daughter, Mrs. Lorenzo D. Lowell, for the last twenty-five years.

In religious belief Dr. Lowell is a Congregationalist and in politics a staunch Republican. He and his wife have had the following named children: Edith L., born April 25, 1863; Lorenzo D., born Jan. 1, 1867; Edward T., born Nov. 16, 1870; Ferdinand G., born Oct. 23, 1873; George D., born Dec. 2, 1881. Mrs. Lowell died June 30, 1902.

Dr. Lowell has taken a deservedly high rank in his profession and maintains the respect of a large circle of friends.

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#### LORENZO DOW LOWELL, JR.

Lorenzo Dow Lowell, Jr., late Master in Chancery and present State's Attorney of Mc-

Henry County, was born in Crystal Lake, Ill., Jan. 1, 1867, the son of Dr. Lorenzo D. and Sarah (Miller) Lowell, received his early education in the Crystal Lake public school and in the high school, graduating from the latter, when he took a three years' course in Oberlin College, Ohio. He then entered upon the study of law with Judge C. H. Donnelly of Woodstock, and in 1893 was admitted to the bar and immediately began practice in the McHenry County Circuit Court with offices in Woodstock and Nunda. He soon succeeded in establishing for himself a successful practice, and was finally appointed Master in Chancery for the McHenry County Circuit Court, followed in 1900 by his election to the position of State's Attorney, which he still holds and in which he has proved himself a capable and efficient public prosecutor.

Mr. Lowell was successful in unravelling one of the most intricate and mysterious murder cases that has come before the courts of Northern Illinois for many years, finally obtaining a complete confession from the murderer—to-wit: the celebrated Ellsworth case, which occurred in 1902. The main facts of this case, briefly summarized, are as follows: Benjamin F. Ellsworth was a prosperous wagon-maker of Woodstock. His family consisted of himself and wife and one son, besides an elderly man named Amos W. Anderson, seventy-eight years of age, who had roomed and boarded with the family for several years. The tragedy occurred on the morning of Feb. 28, 1902, the first knowledge of it being furnished by Earl Ellsworth, the son, as he came from the Ellsworth home with the announcement that Anderson had shot his father, and that the latter had shot Anderson in turn. The room in which the tragedy occurred was located at the head of the stairs in the northeast corner of the house, and was used by Anderson as a sleeping room—the bed standing in the northeast corner—and at the foot of the bed, was a door opening to the stairway leading to the lower floor, while on the south side was a door leading to a front bed-chamber. Beside the head of the bed was a window facing towards the east, the sill of which was but five or six inches above the floor. The first persons to enter the house after the discovery of the tragedy found the elder Ellsworth lying outstretched in a southeasterly direction, with his head on the sill of

the west doorway, while Mrs. Ellsworth lay in the same direction with her head near the sill of the south doorway, their feet almost touching. Both were dead with bullet holes in their heads. The old man Anderson was still alive, but writhing on the floor south of his bed, with his head on the window-sill, and from which the blood was flowing upon the floor and onto the veranda below the window. He was placed upon his bed and later moved to the south bed-room, but died within half an hour. His body bore several bullet wounds, besides two or three on his head, one on each hand and one through the breast from right to left. He died from internal hemorrhage and the shock, and, although partially conscious until a few moments before his death, gave no clue to the perpetrator of the crime.

Earl Ellsworth, the son, promptly surrendered himself to the Sheriff and employed Messrs. Barnes and Lumley as attorneys for his defense, while State's Attorney Lowell, with the assistance of attorneys Smiley & Lyon, looked after the prosecution from its inception. The Coroner's jury rendered a verdict binding young Ellsworth over to the Grand Jury without bail. The attorneys for the defense at once prepared a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of the prisoner, but on its presentation to Judge Donnelly, it was denied on the ground of lack of jurisdiction, Ellsworth being then a voluntary prisoner. The attorneys for the prosecution being desirous of further time for the preparation of their case, waived this point, and the attorneys for the defense asked for the release of their client on bail, but this was refused by Judge Donnelly and the application was withdrawn. This was followed by a second application for release on bail, submitted to Judge Frost at Rockford, which, with the consent of the prosecution, was granted and Ellsworth admitted to bail in the sum of \$8,000. At the May term of the Circuit Court the Grand Jury found a true bill against Ellsworth for the murder of Amos W. Anderson, and the case was set for trial at the September term following; but before that date Mary Lee, an important witness for the prosecution, disappeared, and, as the jury for the case had not been impaneled, the prosecution asked and obtained a continuance.

With the aid of detectives employed at his own expense, State's Attorney Lowell kept

close watch on the movements of young Ellsworth, and was finally successful in securing a confession—first made to the detectives and later, in a room adjoining another in which were two prominent citizens of McHenry County, in a position to hear what was said through a door-way hung with portierres against which was placed a desk. On the strength of this last confession, Ellsworth was rearrested, again repeated his confession, was brought before the Circuit Court at Woodstock, Judge Donnelly presiding, repeated his confession before the court and received a life-sentence to the State Penitentiary at Joliet for one of the most revolting crimes ever perpetrated in the history of McHenry County.

For the success attending the prosecution of this celebrated case, with comparatively little cost to the county, State's Attorney Lowell is entitled to great credit. He devoted himself untiringly for many months to the investigation of the case, freely advancing means from his own pocket for the employment of detectives. Practically there was so little evidence at the outset on which to base a verdict of conviction, that, without the employment of some such methods as those so successfully resorted to, the perpetrator of this foul crime would in all probability, have gone unpunished, and the mystery attending it have remained unsolved forever.

Mr. Lowell was united in marriage, at Nunda, McHenry County, Nov. 3, 1892, with Mary H. Philp, who was born in Nunda, the daughter of Robert and Jane (Hoskin) Philp. (See sketch of Robert Philp in this volume.) Mr. and Mrs. Lowell have two children, viz.: Beatrice M., born Oct. 11, 1894, and Gordon L., born June 2, 1900. Fraternally Mr. Lowell is a member of Cary Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Modern Woodmen of America, and of the Order of Knights of the Maccabees.

#### ROBERT PHILP.

Robert Philp, early settler and worthy citizen of Nunda, McHenry County, was born in the village of St. Tudy's, Cornwall, Eng., June 4, 1834, the son of John and Philippa (Hooper) Philp. John Philp, the father, was also a native of Cornwall, born May 2, 1797, the son of Robert and Elizabeth (William) Philp, who were of old English stock and life residents of



St. Tudy's. Their children were named John and Ann. Mr. Philp, the father of this family, died aged about seventy years. John Philp, father of the subject of this sketch, was a shoemaker by trade, and married, in St. Tudy's, Philippa Hooper, who was born in that place, Sept. 7, 1799, the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Prout) Hooper. James Hooper was a blacksmith by trade, and spent his life at St. Tudy's where he died. His children were: Samuel, John, James, Thomas, Gerry, William and Joseph. Six of these sons were blacksmiths. William of this family went to New Zealand with his brother George, where the former died. John Philp lived all his life at St. Tudy's, dying there in 1877, aged eighty years. The family were members of the Church of England. His children were: James, Robert and Elizabeth.

Robert Philp, second son and subject of this sketch, received a limited education in a subscription school in his native village, and learned the blacksmith's trade, serving three years as an apprentice. He worked at his trade in his native place until twenty-one years of age, when he came to America, sailing from Plymouth, Eng., in a sailing-vessel, in August, 1855, the voyage to Quebec occupying seven weeks. From Quebec he came directly by railroad to Chicago, where he arrived Sept. 30, 1855. From Chicago he proceeded to Algonquin, McHenry County, where his brother James had settled in 1851, and an uncle, Thomas Hooper, in 1847. John Pooley, now of Aurora, came to America at the same time. Mr. Philp worked at his trade in Algonquin, and, on July 11, 1877, was married in the city of Chicago to Jane Hoskin, who was born in St. Teath, Cornwall, Eng., Feb. 19, 1847, the daughter of Nicholas and Fannie (Parnall) Hoskin. Nicholas Hoskin, the father, was born in St. Teath, England, June 3, 1824. He married Fannie Parnall, born in England, the daughter of John Parnall. Nicholas Hooper was a member of the Church of England, and came to America in 1826, sailing from Plymouth, Eng., to Quebec. He died at London, Ont., six weeks after his arrival, leaving two children, Jane and Nicholas. His family remained at London, Ont., several years, and here his widow married a second husband and they had children named Mary, Sarah and one other now de-

ceased. Jane Hoskin, afterwards Mrs. Robert Philp, came to Chicago in 1877, the year of her marriage to Mr. Philp. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Robert Philp lived two years in Algonquin and, on April 1, 1879, removed to Nunda, where he established himself in the blacksmith business in which, at the present time (1903) he is still engaged. He built a comfortable residence at Nunda in 1878, which he now occupies. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Philp are: Ida J., John R., Mabel E., Mary H. and Bessie A.

Mr. and Mrs. Philp are members of the Episcopal Church. During the Civil War Mr. Philp was in the Government service as a blacksmith, being stationed for six months at Nashville, Tenn. In politics he is a Republican and served for fifteen years as a member of the Nunda Village Board of Trustees. Mr. Philp has provided all his children with good educations. His son, John R., graduated from Dixon College, Ill., afterwards studied law at Rockford, and is now practicing his profession in the city of Chicago.

#### GEORGE EVERETT MORTON.

George Everett Morton (deceased) was one of the younger citizens of McHenry County and descendant of a pioneer family. He was born in Algonquin, June 27, 1870, the son of Edward and Maria G. (Everett) Morton, received his primary education in the Algonquin public schools, and later took a course in Drew's Business College at Elgin, Ill. He then engaged in the livery business in Algonquin, in which he was successful. On June 19, 1901, he was married in Algonquin to Catherine Hope Doig, who was born Feb. 14, 1874, the daughter of Andrew Doig. (See sketch of Andrew Doig in this volume.) To Mr. and Mrs. Morton was born one child—George Everett Morton, Jr., born Dec. 1, 1902. On November 16, 1902, less than two years after his marriage, Mr. Morton died of typhoid fever, leaving his bereaved wife to mourn her loss and care for their son, who was born a few weeks after the death of the father whose name he bears. Like his father, Mr. Morton was a staunch Republican in politics, and fraternally was connected with the Cary Station Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows, with the order of Maccabees and Modern Woodman of America. Mrs. Morton



received a good education in the Algonquin public schools and is a lady of refinement and high character.

#### DORR W. THOMAS.

Dorr W. Thomas, a native of McHenry County and respected citizen of Algonquin Township, was born April 25, 1852, the son of La-Fayette and Arvilla (French) Thomas. (See sketch of S. M. Thomas elsewhere in this volume.) He received his education in the public schools of Algonquin Township and Cary Station, grew up a farmer and married, in the town of Algonquin, Seraphina Morton, daughter of Edward and Charlotte (Brewer) Morton. (See sketch of Morton family.) After his marriage Mr. Thomas first settled on a farm in Algonquin Township, but a few years later sold this farm and engaged in the milk business in the city of Chicago, which he continued about three years. This he finally exchanged for the stock and butcher business, which he carried on in Algonquin. He has recently erected an electric light plant in Algonquin Village, which is being conducted successfully and for which he has a franchise covering a period of twenty years. In politics Mr. Thomas is a Republican and, fraternally, a member of the Knights of Maccabees and Modern Woodmen of America.

#### THOMAS W. COFFEY.

Thomas W. Coffey, early settler and successful farmer of McHenry County, Ill., was born in Johnstown, County Meath, Ireland, in 1835, the son of Thomas and Mary (McDonough) Coffey. Thomas Coffey, Sr., was a native of Johnstown, where the family had lived for many generations. His mother's maiden name was McGill. The families were of old Celtic stock. The children of Thomas and Mary Coffey were: Ann, Teddy, William, Thomas W., John (who died in America aged twenty-five years), and Christopher. Thomas Coffey, Sr., was a farmer and stock-trader in the fairs of Ireland according to the custom of that country. In 1850 he came with his family to America, sailing from Liverpool in the last days of February for New York, in the ship "Underwriter," the voyage occupying seven weeks. From New York he went immediately to Saratoga County, settling in Jonesville. Being already advanced in years, he had retired from active labor, but his children promptly

found employment. Five years later (1855) he removed to Spring Prairie, Walworth County, Wis., where his sons, Thomas and John, had already located, and with them he made his home and there he finally died aged about seventy years. In religious belief he was a Catholic. His wife had died before the family left Ireland.

Thomas W. Coffey, the son, attended school but little in his native Ireland, and was about fifteen years old when his father removed to America. In Saratoga County, N. Y., he found employment at farm-work, at four dollars per month for the first year, and eight dollars per month for the second. When about seventeen years old he went to Albany, N. Y., and being unable to find other employment, engaged his services to an old Scotchman as a bar-keeper, with whom he remained two years at \$30 per month. Notwithstanding his youth and surroundings during this period, it is to his credit to say that he contracted no bad habits as to drink or otherwise, but was unable to save anything from his meager wages, and, at the end of two years, returned to his old neighborhood in Saratoga County, and resumed farm-work at \$12 per month. Here he was almost free from expense, and having saved his wages for eight months, amounting to almost \$100, came with his brother John to Illinois, traveling by rail to Chicago and thence by stage to Richmond, McHenry County. Then going to Lake Geneva, he spent a month in the employment of a farmer there, when he went to Hudson, Walworth County, Wis., and there engaged in farm-work, in all spending there about five years, of which two years was with one employer. His father having come west, he and his brother made a home for him in Wisconsin until his death.

Thomas W. Coffey was married, Nov. 29, 1859, in Hartland Township, McHenry County, to Mary Ann Claresy, who was born in Pawtucket, R. I., Sept. 29, 1845, the daughter of Patrick and Catherine (Brady) Claresy. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Coffey settled on an 80-acre tract of rented land in Linn Township, Walworth County, where they remained three years, when in 1862 they moved to McHenry County. For the next three years he lived on a rented farm of 200 acres in Greenwood Township, but in 1865 bought eighty acres of land in Hebron Township, upon which he lived the

next fifteen years, in the meantime adding eighty acres more, and improving his land by the erection of good farm buildings. His first purchase of land originally costing him \$13 per acre, he subsequently sold at \$22 per acre, and then bought a 200-acre farm in Greenwood Township at \$22 per acre. In place of the worn-out buildings on his last purchase he has erected new and more modern structures, and now has one of the best improved farms in McHenry County. Besides this farm he owns another of 122½ acres in Greenwood Township, with eleven acres constituting his homestead just outside the city limits of Woodstock on the south, on which there is a good two-story frame house and other farm buildings. He also owns some valuable real estate in Woodstock, while his wife is also the owner of residence property in her own name.

In political opinions Mr. Coffey is a firm adherent of the doctrines of Jefferson and Jackson, but voted for John C. Fremont, the first candidate for President of the Republican ticket. Four years later he supported Stephen A. Douglas for the Presidency, and during the Civil War was a stalwart supporter of the Union cause. He is recognized as a man of sound practical judgment, and for twelve years served as School Director of his township. His family is Catholic in religious belief.

Mr. Coffey is what may be justly termed a self-made man, who owes his success in life to his individual efforts, aided by his faithful and efficient wife. Beginning life with nothing but his hands, a stout Irish heart, and that native ability and shrewdness characteristic of the Celtic race, he has won deserved success as an enterprising farmer and established for himself a reputation as a trustworthy and respected citizen.

Mr. and Mrs. Coffey have had born to them the following named children: William Thomas, born Sept. 29 1860, died March 20, 1865; Mary Ellen, born Sept. 3, 1862, died aged three years; Edward, born May 9, 1864; Francis William, born Sept. 20, 1867; Rose A., born June 9, 1869; Catherine, born Jan. 25, 1876, died Aug. 17, 1891; Margaret, born April 3, 1880, died Oct. 6, 1893; Christopher, born Jan. 25, 1884; Frances Pearl, born March 28, 1888. Mrs. Coffey was in Chicago during the great fire of Oct. 8-9, 1871, and witnessed that historic conflagration.

Edward Coffey, son of Thomas W., married Maggie Halloran, and they have two children—Gilbert and Paul. They reside in Greenwood, McHenry County.

The son Francis William, married Susan Bonner, and they reside on a farm in Greenwood.

Christopher married Nellie Cusack, and they reside in Woodstock. They have one son—Joseph.

Patrick Claesey, the father of Mrs. Coffey, was born in County Limerick, Ireland, about 1800, came to America in early manhood and worked in the cotton factories in Rhode Island. He married Catherine Brady, who was a native of County Longford, Ireland, born about 1800. In her girlhood she came to America and was employed as a domestic, earning the money which she sent to Ireland to enable her brothers and sisters to reach this country. The children of this family were: William, Ellen, Catherine, Francis, Mary Ann, John, Elizabeth and Maggie. Of these the first five were born at Pawtucket, R. I., where Mr. Claesey was employed for many years in the cotton mills. About 1848 he moved with his family to Hartland Township, McHenry County, where he bought a farm of 150 acres in the Donnelly settlement. This land he improved and added to it until he became the owner of 300 acres. Mr. Claesey was a Democrat in politics and in religious faith a Catholic. He served for sometime as school director in his district. He died Dec. 3, 1863, aged about 65 years, while his widow survived him nearly thirty-five years, dying, May 20, 1898, aged nearly 100 years.

#### JOSEPH E. ROBINSON.

Joseph E. Robinson, Harvard, Ill., member of a pioneer family of McHenry County, was born near Montreal, Can., April 22, 1837, the son of Joseph and Harriet (Carr) Robinson. Joseph Robinson, Sr., was a native of Canada, born near Montreal, now in the Province of Quebec, and was a farmer by occupation. According to tradition the Robinson family was originally of English stock, this branch of the family being descended from a soldier of the English army who settled in the Scotch settlement in the North of Ireland, an incident which has given rise to the belief that they were of Scotch-Irish ancestry. If there was Scotch-Irish blood in their veins, it was derived from



the maternal side. Joseph Robinson, Sr., was married near Montreal to Harriet Carr, daughter of William and Rachel Carr, the Carr family being of Yorkshire English stock. Joseph Robinson and wife first settled twenty-four miles north of Montreal, where they remained a few years, when they removed to Walworth County, Wis., settling near Geneva Lake. Here he began improving a farm, but subsequently sold out and in 1841 removed to McHenry County, Ill., locating at Franklinville, where he bought 320 acres of land in company with his mother-in-law, Mrs. Rachel Carr. This land he improved and it remained in possession of the family until 1902. Mr. Robinson and wife were members of the Methodist Church, but on coming to Geneva Lake, there being no church of that denomination there, they became identified with the Baptist Church. They were parents of the following named children: Rachel, Joseph E., Rebecca, Charlotte, Henry, Richard, Mariah and George. In political opinions he was originally an old-time Whig and later a Republican. He was a man of sound morals and high character. Mrs. Robinson lived to the age of seventy-four years, dying on the farm in 1884.

Joseph E. Robinson, the immediate subject of this sketch, was four years old when his parents moved to Franklinville, McHenry County, received a common-school education in his boyhood, and later spent two terms in the Todd Seminary at Woodstock. His life occupation was that of a farmer, remaining at the paternal home until twenty-six years of age, when, in December, 1864, he removed to Bremer County, Iowa, where he bought 200 acres of unimproved land with ten acres of timber land. Here during 1865 he built a grist and saw-mill, carrying on a considerable business. He also built a good frame house, and on July 7, 1868, he married in Rockford, Ill., Mary C. Carmack, who was born Nov. 4, 1839, in Porter County, Ind., the daughter of Abram and Ruth (Massey) Carmack. (See sketch of William A. Carmack in this volume.) Mrs. Robinson was an infant when brought by her parents to McHenry County, and grew up on the farm in Dunham Township, where she attended the district school. Her first teacher was Mary Barnes. Her mother having died when she was twenty years old, she remained at home for several years caring for her father's household.

Her brother, Robert, having become blind from an attack of measles when about five years old, came under the charge of his sister, and she cared for him with sisterly affection and devotion. He was a bright, intelligent boy and made excellent progress in his mental studies, especial mental arithmetic and music, and learned to play well on the violin and the cornet.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Robinson located in Bremer County, Iowa, on the land which he had bought, and made of it a pleasant home developing a valuable property. His farm was situated fifteen miles northeast of Waverly, Iowa, and he added to it until he was the owner of 277 acres. Here he lived twenty-six years, and here their two children were born, viz.: Robert E., born Sept. 16, 1869, and Frank A., born July 8, 1873. Mr. Robinson served as Secretary of the School Board of his district thirteen years.

Robert E. Robinson, the elder son of this family, received his education in the district school, later graduated from the business department of the Fayette High School, after which he attended the Medical College at Iowa City three years. He then spent one term in the Rush Medical College, Chicago, when, returning to the Medical College at Iowa City, he graduated there in 1894, and soon after began practice at Frederica, Iowa, which he continued successfully for eight years. Then, having taken a special course in the Medical College at Iowa City, he became the resident physician in charge of the Mercy Hospital at Davenport, Iowa. He is at present engaged in practice at Tripoli, Iowa.

Frank A., the younger son, received his education in the district school and in the high school at Tripoli, Iowa, after which he spent some time in the horological school at Elgin, Ill., graduating there in 1893. On December 20, 1893, he was married to Rose Guiney.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Robinson visited the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893, after which they came to Harvard, McHenry County, then spent a year at Marengo, and finally purchased the property where they now reside, consisting of two acres adjoining the corporation limits of the City of Harvard on the south. Here Mr. Robinson has erected a pleasant residence, and here they have since resided. He is a staunch Republican in politics,



and a man of sturdy moral character and sound business judgment. He has invested largely in fertile farming lands in Clark and Codington Counties, South Dakota.

Mrs. Robinson inherited from her father, Abram Carmack, the Carmack homestead, consisting of 179 acres of valuable land. She is a member of the Presbyterian church, in

which she is an active worker and a liberal supporter. She is an ex-member of the Ladies of the Maccabees and of the Woman's Relief Corps—an auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic—and, for fifteen years, has been a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union; is also a member of the Patriotic Club of Harvard.

#### ERRATA.

Page 652—(Sketch of Frank F. Axtell) Second  
Column, 2d line: For "Genoa, Ill.,"  
read Geneva, Ill.

Same Page—Same Column, 6th line: For  
"John D." read Joseph D.



















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